The Middleburry Campus

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Midd Police investigate mugging

By Katie Flagg
News Editor

At approximately 1 a.m. on Tuesday morning, a female student was accosted near the northeast entrance of Stewart Hall. An unidentified male grabbed her shoulder bag and dragged her a few feet in the snow while she resisted his attack before fleeing on foot toward Old Chapel Road. A few hours later, another Middlebury student reported his vehicle stolen from Old Chapel Road.

The suspect is described as approximately 5'4", slender and high-school aged. He was wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt and a white baseball cap with the hood pulled up over the hat at the time of the attack.

Both incidents were reported to the Middlebury Police Department. "It's [the Police Department's] investigation," said Melody Perkins, assistant director of the Department of Public Safety. "Once we call the police in, it's turned over to them."

Middlebury Police Chief Tom Hanley confirmed that the town police department is the investigating agency, but noted that the department will be functioning off-campus in conducting their investigation. "There's no need for us to be on campus right now," said Hanley. "We've interviewed the person involved. We're just conducting a follow-up investigation."

Middlebury Police are also investigating an incident that occurred earlier on Monday involving a male suspect of a similar description. "We're not going to say at this time that they're definitely related," said Hanley of the campus and town incidents, stressing that making that

See Police, page 3

Sparkling skies

Buck Sleeper

Exploding over a warmly-lit McCullough Student Center, fireworks ignite Winter Carnival festivities last Thursday evening. **For extended coverage, see pages 12 and 13.**

Winter carnival deemed success

By Caroline S. Stauffer
News Editor

Both event organizers and the Department of Public Safety have proclaimed Winter Carnival 2005 a resounding success. Winter Carnival Head Susan Harnett '05 and Amber Rydberg '06, assistant head, confessed to feeling slightly apprehensive going into the weekend, as they had instigated a number of changes in the event and were unsure how students would respond. "So far, though, we've only gotten positive feedback, something we're very excited about," Harnett said.

One of the first changes Harnett and Rydberg made involved the sale of Winter Carnival packages. In past years, parents chose between two types of packages — this year parents could create their own packages by selecting a shirt and choosing tickets for individual events. Approximately 250 packages were sold this year, most

See Winter, page 4

Recruiting forum sparks debates, controversy

Students and community members speak out on nondiscrimination policy

Ashley Fitzgerald

Panelists present diverse opinions concerning the College's recruitment policy in Dana Auditorium Monday.

By Ben Salkowe
Special Projects Editor

Community Council heard arguments on the College's nondiscrimination policy and recruitment procedure Monday from a large group of students, faculty and staff at a panel discussion held in Dana auditorium. Having heard from the community, the Council will begin deliberation next week to formulate a recommendation of action for President Ronald D. Liebowitz.

"We hope to make a recommendation to the President in the next few weeks," said Ann Hanson, dean of student affairs and co-chair of Council.

The policy under debate concerns the College's procedures for allowing employers to use campus facilities and resources to recruit students. Under the current nondiscrimination policy, any employer wishing to recruit on campus must sign an agreement pledging nondiscrimination in hiring or hold an informational meeting explaining their hiring practices, before they may use Campus facilities and resources. This policy has generated controversy since Captain David Doucette of the United States Marine Corps used the procedure to hold an information session on U.S. Code Title 10, the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which prohibits openly gay individuals from joining the military. After the information session, Doucette was allowed to recruit students on campus.

A faculty resolution was recently passed 62-28-4 advising Liebowitz to modify the College's current policies and procedures in order to eliminate the exemption clause for groups with discriminatory hiring practices that offer an informational session on their policy.

A five-member panel led Monday's discussion. The panel included Associate Archivist and National Guardsman Mike Knapp, Baldwin Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy Mike Olinick, Dan Morosani '05, Kathryn Babin '07 and Professor of Russian Kevin Moss.

The panel members each offered personal statements and then took questions and comments from the audience. In general, participants expressed disagreement with the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, but varied in their positions on the College's non-discrimination policy.

"[The policy] states that employers who are unable to sign the non-discrimination agreement may recruit on campus if they are willing to hold a public meeting 'to explain' their policy," said Olinick,

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MIDDBRIEFS

BY ALEXXA GOTTHARDT, MATTIE GRATCH and CAROLINE S. STAUFFER

Physics department under external review

This past Wednesday marked the end of the second of three external academic department review committee visits for the 2004-2005 school year. The evaluation team, comprised of three faculty members from other liberal arts institutions, began its evaluation of the College's Physics Department early last week, and spent three days consulting faculty, students and administrators. The committee also assessed the department's self-study and the administration's "charge letter" highlighting important issues. Through the visit, committee members hoped to obtain an understanding of the department's strengths, weaknesses and future goals in order to compile an assessment that would include recommendations for further development.

This review of the Physics Department was part of an ongoing cycle of external departmental reviews established in 1995 as part of the Ten Year Plan. According to Dean of Faculty and Associate Professor of Psychology Susan M. Campbell, the evaluations aim to assist the departments, program faculty and administration in "refining the curriculum and anticipating staff needs." Every year three departments are chosen — ideally, each department is reviewed once every ten years. This year, reviewers have already completed evaluations of the Studio Art and Physics departments.

According to Campbell, past reviews have been very successful. "Departments have always enjoyed the opportunity to talk to colleagues from other schools and compare notes on shared issues and concerns," said Campbell. "The recommendations of an external review committee can lead to important changes in a department's structure and curriculum."

Jeffrey S. Dunham, chair of the Physics Department, expressed similar sentiments. "[The committee members] had a clear sense of our strengths and weaknesses," he said, "and they seemed genuinely interested in helping us improve our department."

This year's final review — of the French Department — will take place after spring break.

First-year award honors student achievements

Dalal Al-Abdulrazzak '07 was recently selected by the offices of the Dean of the College and the Dean of Student Affairs to receive the First Year Achievement Prize, established in 1990 by an anonymous donor and awarded annually to a well-rounded student with an outstanding academic record.

Associate Dean of Student Affairs Kathy Foley-Giorgio said she nominated Al-Abdulrazzak to acknowledge the College's appreciation of both Al-Abdulrazzak's academic successes and the many additional contributions she has made during her time at Middlebury. Foley-Giorgio described Al-Abdulrazzak as "an excellent role model for young women."

Al-Abdulrazzak served as program assistant for the College's International Student Orientation this fall, during which time she was an effective and compassionate leader. She is also the first Kuwaiti woman to achieve the highest level of honor in the Girl Scouts, and continues to be involved with local community troops in Vermont.

Al-Abdulrazzak said she was "very appreciative and pleasantly surprised" to receive such an honor, and plans on using the award's monetary component to help cover living expenses while interning at the Monterey Bay Aquarium this summer.

New SGA senators announced, bill passed

Two new students will join the Student Government Association (SGA). Dan Saper '06 will take over as Junior Half-Year Senator and Dean Atyia '08.5 will serve as the new First-Year Feb Senator.

The SGA passed a bill Sunday that was sponsored by the Chellis House. The House sought approval to form a formal committee of students, faculty and staff to do research on the status of women at Middlebury. The Bill requires no school funding, but merely desired SGA support.

Community Council to consider new house proposals

By Caroline S. Stauffer

News Editor

Although it remains focused on the expansion and development of the commons system, Middlebury College continues to support Academic Interest Houses. Students have recently submitted proposals requesting the additions of Portuguese and Arabic Language Houses and after moving to a more accessible location, PALANA house continues to flourish.

Elizabeth Quinn and Patrick Swan, both first-years, submitted a proposal for a Portuguese House to the Academic House Review Committee on Feb. 21 with faculty support. The student authors maintain that there are four interested students for this year and possibly six for the following year. The Committee plans to review the proposal sometime this month.

The proposal confirms that if founded, members of the Portuguese house would uphold the integrity of a language pledge similar to that of the other language houses — to speak only in Portuguese. Since there is no Portuguese Department, the Department of Latin American Studies would review house applications. The faculty advisor of the project will be Visiting Instructor in Spanish and Latin American Studies Kirsten Ernst.

"The Portuguese Department is relatively new at Middlebury so initially we thought that by creating an academic house it would help it grow," Swan said. "We also thought that it could help students realize that learning how to speak a foreign language is not just about the classroom but it can also be natural and practical."

Sean Lena '06 was in charge of submitting a similar proposal to Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson requesting the formation of an Arabic House.

In addition to the seven language houses that are currently active on campus, two other special interest houses exist — PALANA (Pan African Latino Asian Native American) and Weybridge House, which is committed to environmentalism.

PALANA reopened this year in Carr Hall and more than a semester later, Dean for Institutional Diversity Roman Graf views the change as extremely beneficial for the house.

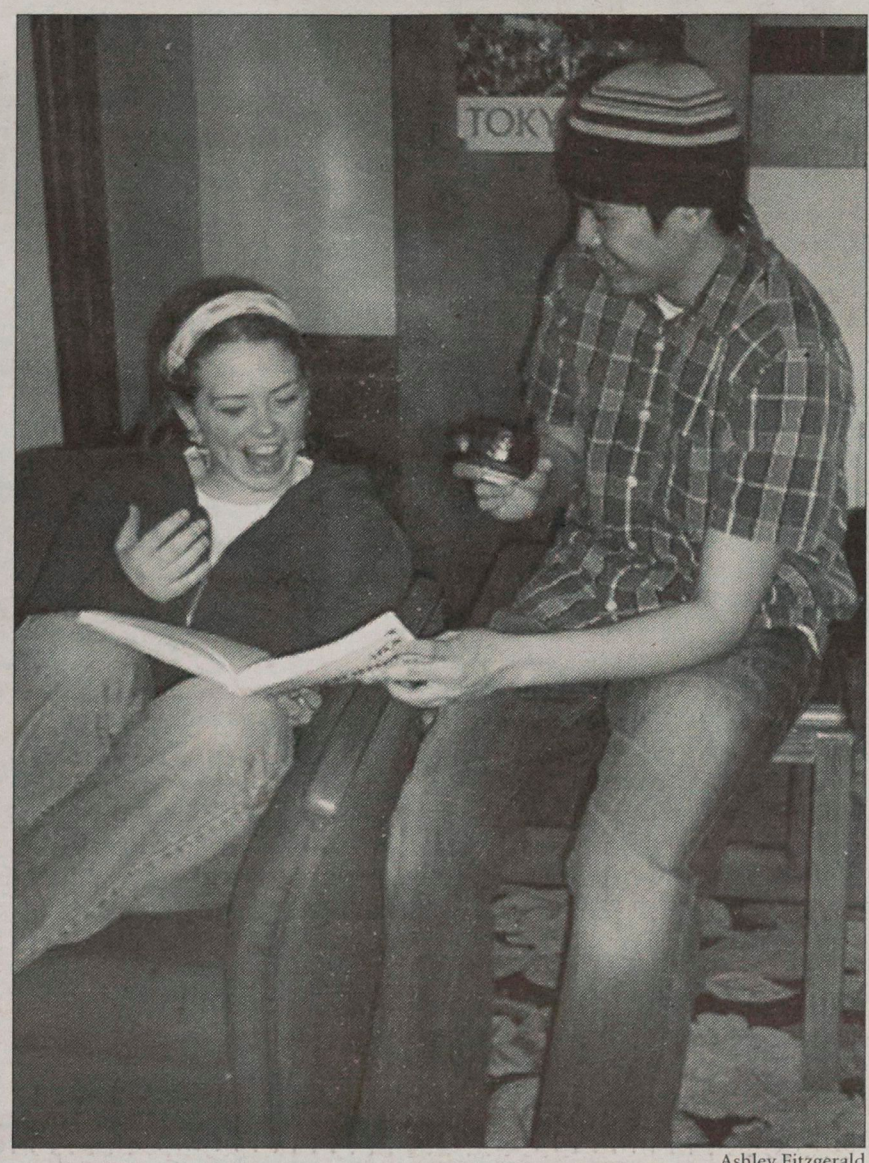
"In short, I think the move from the fringes of campus to its center has been extremely positive for PALANA," Graf said. He remarked that the convenient location encourages students to stop by and hang out.

The house has sponsored community outreach events such as the PALANA kids program and has hosted two deliberative dialogue forums and will host the reception for the Angels Awards and a reception for alumni of color in the near future.

Hanson reaffirmed the College's commitment to academic interest houses. "The academic houses give students opportunities to blend what they were learning in class with life outside of the classroom," she said.

The review process for social and academic interest houses is currently underway. The charge committee will share the results of its investigation with Community Council, which will in turn make recommendations to President Ronald D. Liebowitz.

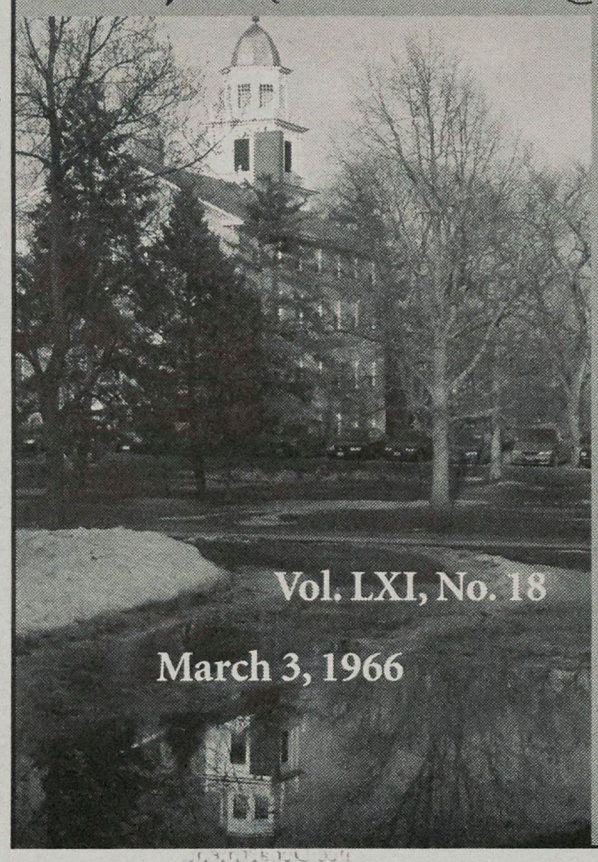
— Reporting by Eri Nosaka



Ashley Fitzgerald

Students are exposed to cultural events, language immersion and new traditions through the College's seven language houses, including the Japanese house.

This Week in Middlebury History



Lack Of Locks Seen As Only Bar To New Hours

The no-curfew system for senior women will go into effect as soon as the locks arrive for the front doors of the Forest dormitory, Dean Kelly disclosed Tuesday.

These locks were ordered after the proposal for the new system was passed by the Student Life Committee, February 9.

Mrs. Kelly explained that since there is no glass in the front doors of Forest, a girl cannot see who is ringing the bell. If locks are installed on the inside glass doors as well as on the front doors, the night attendant can push a buzzer to open the front door, see who rang the bell, and still be protected by the second set of doors.

"The locks are to protect the girls inside," the Dean stressed.

Dean Kelly sent out explanatory letters Tuesday to the parents of each senior girl. The parents must send in written permission before their daughters can enjoy the new privileges.

Those seniors without parental permission will abide by the regulations for junior women.

Under the new system girls with permission will have no hours and will be admitted into the dorm by student volunteers serving as night attendants. As of Tuesday seven girls had indicated to Mrs. Kelly willingness to fulfill the position, but as yet no arrangements were definite. A girl must be on some kind of student aid to qualify.

At least seven girls are needed — one to work each night of the week. They will sleep in the Forest East guest room, to which bells of the front doors of east and West are connected.

SGA legislates Proctor reopening

By Erin McCormick
Staff Writer

In an effort to reopen Proctor Dining Hall for weekend service, the Student Government Association (SGA) narrowly passed a bill Sunday night to revive Proctor on weekends and question the place of Middlebury Commons Dining at large.

"The passing of this bill is a victory for all students. Whether or not the bill causes change, it has already made a difference. We, as students, are having our voices heard," said Wonnacott Senator Eli Berman '07, the bill's author.

Berman's proposal, which was passed by a vote of six in favor to five opposed, with four abstentions, will now be taken to the President's desk by Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson in an attempt to voice the student body's position on the Proctor closings, according to SGA President Andrew Jacobi '05.

The bill, entitled "Fighting for the Commons System," was first presented to the SGA last week but was thought to be too complex. Some members of SGA wanted the bill to be split in two in order to deal with the Proctor Dining Hall and Commons Dining as separate issues. Berman, however, thought the two issues were inherently interconnected and opted to rework the bill rather than divide it.

The objective of the bill is "to have the administration allocate the necessary resources to keep Proctor open on the weekends, and by doing so, reinforce the formation of the Commons."

If this objective, however, is not achieved by the administration, the bill asks that "Midd Dining" be accepted in favor of the term "Commons Dining" and will force administrators to "question…the future role of the Commons Dining".

"Before it closed [on weekends], Proctor was just the cafeteria on the south side of campus. One consequence of the 'Proctor Push' is that Wonnacott and Brainerd [students] now associate Proctor with their [respective] commons. The bill is a victory for Commons Dining," Berman commented.

Along with the SGA, students fighting to keep Proctor open wrote a petition and collected 575 student signatures. The signed petition, which was presented to the SGA at the meeting, argued that the closing of Proctor on weekends leaves students living in residence halls on the south side of campus — including Stewart, Hepburn, Gifford, Starr, Painter, the mods and a number of the academic and social houses — without any convenient dining options. Further, the petition stated that the closing of Proctor, the unofficial dining hall of Brainerd and Wonnacott, devalues the Commons System with respect to dining.

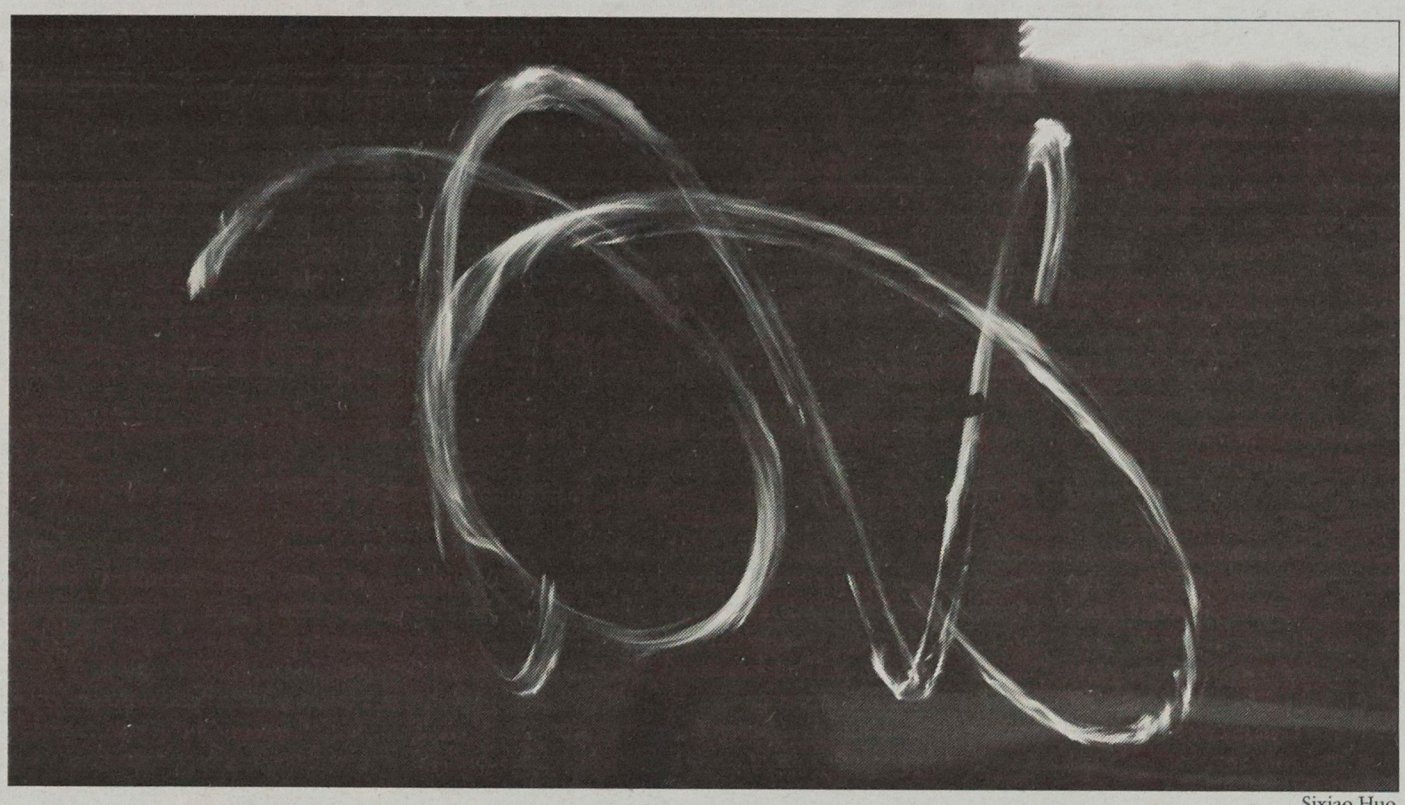
Even with 575 petition signatures and the SGA's endorsement of Berman's bill, the possibility of Proctor reopening on weekends does not look promising, due primarily to the financial constraints of Dining Services. Hiring employees for a third dining hall on the weekends would cost Dining Services approximately $150,000 per annum, according to a statement from Matthew Biette, director of Dining Services. Biette met with President Ronald D. Liebowitz earlier this week to discuss possible scheduling changes for dining halls in response to the recent cumulative efforts of disgruntled students, but reaffirmed the legitimacy of the College's rationale for opting to shut down Proctor on weekends.

Biette expounded on Dining Services' financial crunch, noting that it would be difficult to find, let alone pay, additional employees to operate three dining halls all week. In response to requests that the College close another facility or institute a rotating schedule on weekends, Biette explained that Ross — by far the most popular dining hall — must stay open for capacity reasons, and that Proctor, with its aging equipment and dubious "magic wall of food," is the logical choice to close.

Biette expressed regret that more could not be done to satisfy the entire student body, but acknowledged the impossibility of this in light of financial constraints and general practicability, and hoped that students would accept such minor inconveniences as are generated by the closing of Proctor and come to appreciate the positive implications of the evolution of Dining Services.

These arguments and the unlikelihood that Proctor will reopen on weekends do not, however, devalue the bill, according to Berman. "SGA does not have the power to enforce the bills it passes. Right now, all signs point to Proctor remaining closed on the weekends. SGA does have the power, however, to express the will of the student body. Brainerd's petition, countless e-mails and this bill do exactly that," Berman added.

FIRE-POI POWER



Sixiao Huo

Performing with fire-poi in the Maori tradition, Ben Poole '08 heats up the Winter Carnival ice show Friday evening.

Police direct campus investigation

Continued from page 1

connection would be a premature assumption.

While both Public Safety and Middlebury police have interviewed the victim, there are currently no plans to release a composite sketch of the suspect.

Both departments stress the importance of constant vigilance in avoiding similar situations. "This is not a common occurrence on campus," said Perkins. "It's an unusual situation. But we encourage students always to be aware that, although Middlebury College is safe, they should be vigilant."

"I don't want to tell people that they can't travel alone — that would be too draconian," said Hanley. "[Students] should just be aware of their surroundings and keep their eyes open."

Perkins noted that Middlebury's atmosphere presents certain challenges in preventing similar crimes. "There's nothing in this case that this young woman could have done differently," Perkins said. "She didn't anticipate a problem and she shouldn't have."

On the College's campus, Perkins said, students often encounter others at late hours. Such encounters are routine and hardly cause for concern. "People out and about at night is not an uncommon occurrence," Perkins said.

As a result, situations that might rouse concern off campus are often dismissed as harmless, and "within this community, students tend to feel safe."

Perkins emphasized the benefits of this comfortable environment, but acknowledged that this environment "allows people who have wrongdoing on their minds to go undetected."

Perkins recommended that, in addition to remaining vigilant, students should try to avoid walking alone at night.

"If someone feels a real concern for safety, they can call for the Public Safety office and we can try to help a student who is concerned about their safety," said Perkins. But she noted that, as there are more students than there are Public Safety officers, students should look to walk in pairs when traveling at night.

Although Tuesday morning's incidents were not room intrusions, Public Safety also renewed now-familiar reminders to keep personal doors locked and maintain responsibility for personal safety.

Any students with information regarding any of the recent crimes on campus are strongly encouraged to contact the Department of Public Safety or the Middlebury Police Department.

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY KELSEY RINEHART

GUADALAJARA — The Office of Off-Campus Study neglects to mention to those headed off to study in Guadalajara that they will be risking their lives twice or thrice daily while abroad. But so it is in Guadalajara, the second largest of Mexico's metropoleis.

Several times a day, I muster my courage, take a deep breath and a monstrous leap of faith, and step onto the bus. Navigating the bus system in this city of more than 5 million people has been one of my more educational and life-threatening activities. Each day I meet the task with equal portions of stoicism, doubt, hopefulness and false security.

I wait patiently, enjoying the bright sun of another balmy, 75-degree day. I step off the curb, extend my arm, point and stare down the bus hurtling towards me.

Yes! I have successfully hailed it. It screeches to a stop and the door clangs open. Before my second foot is off the ground, the door is folding on me and we are lurching away.

Trying to grip the handrail and hold onto books and bags, I totter up the stairs and hand the driver — our courteous "chofer," in Spanish — my discounted ticket and student ID. He stares dubiously at my MiddCard and accelerates suddenly, throwing me into the line of people packed like sardines between the two rows of occupied seats. I mutter "disculpe," plant my feet firmly, grip the rail above my head, and try to ignore the fact that my face is just centimeters from some guy's neck.

We passengers lurch to and fro and slam into each other, equally helpless in the midst of the earthquake on wheels. Unable to maintain my fellow busgoers' disinterested stare and self-contained composure, I stifle a quiet laugh. We screech to a stop again, simultaneously cutting off two cars, running a red light and taking a turn on two wheels.

It doesn't seem physically possible for any more people to occupy the space of the bus, but, lo and behold, we've picked up three women hauling armfulls of flowers and two fellows toting guitars. We pack in tighter and the floral aroma permeates the bus, mercifully — if temporarily — masking other smells.

All of a sudden, the two musicians strum a few chords and break into a heartfelt, plaintive, tragically off-pitch ballad. Eventually, I recognize it as a Spanish version of "Last Kiss," the 1964 J. Frank Wilson and the Cavaliers song, (un)memorably covered by Pearl Jam a few years ago. They sing with such incredible conviction and abandon that I almost want to forgive their utter lack of talent and dump all my pesos into their tattered hats.

I am so touched and amused by the song, I almost miss the popsicle stand next to the university, my signal to disembark. I quickly reach over peoples' heads to ring the bell and squeeze my way past guitars and flowers and disgruntled travelers to the door at the end of the bus.

We heave to a halt once again, the door clangs open, and I jump down to the safety of the curb. I sigh and pause a moment, listening as the noise of the city swallows the strains of "Last Kiss."

I congratulate myself on having survived yet another bus trip, and remind myself that I still have two hours of class to steel myself for the next.

Military recruiters spark campus debates

Countdown to controversy

Earlier in the semester, Dan Morosani '05 contacted Captain David Doucette of the United States Marine Corps about recruiting at Middlebury College.

Feb. 8 — Doucette explains U.S. Title 10 policy and answers questions about "Don't ask, Don't tell" in compliance with the College's policy toward discriminating employers

Feb. 9 — Students and faculty members organize silent protest outside Proctor. A petition calling for change in the College's policy is signed by 139 members of the College community.

Feb. 9 – 11 — Doucette remains on campus and conducts four or five student interviews.

Feb. 14 — Faculty easily passes resolution proposed by Professor of Mathematics Mike Olinick stating that all employers wishing to recruit on campus must sign the Colleges' nondiscrimination agreement.

Feb. 28 — Community Council sponsors a panel discussion in Dana Auditorium. A wide range of

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

an opponent of the College's current policy. "We would be forced to permit the Ku Klux Klan or the American Nazi party to recruit here if they were willing to "explain" their restrictive membership practices."

In Favor of the Status Quo

Supporters of the policy argued that allowing the military to recruit on campus would promote valuable discussion of a policy that is set by legislators and not the military. "Students who disagree with the military's policies would get the opportunity to raise awareness about what they think are unfair rules of conduct [and] students interested in careers in the military would be able to find out more," said Morosani, who first brought the policy to discussion by working to bring the military to campus. "It baffles me that our professors want to repress such an exchange of ideas."

Babin also said the current policy should be maintained to allow students to make their own choices and opinions. "I believe that a central part of our liberal education at Middlebury is informed and challenging debate and discussion — in and outside of the classroom," she said.

Knapp also argued for the policy, "If we are unwilling to hear the arguments of those with whom we disagree, then we do ourselves a great disservice, the potential ramifications of which could be incredibly far-reaching," he said.

In Need of Reform

Moss criticized the argument in favor of the policy saying the issue was not about free speech. "Hiring is conduct, not hiring is conduct. And they don't hire our students, they exclude them, they discriminate against them. Conduct. And conduct unbecoming. We should not endorse discrimination or allow it on campus," he said.

J.S. Woodward '06, student co-chair of the Community Council, also said he did not believe the notion that the policy promoted discussion of discriminatory practices. "If it requires a figure of controversy that inspires fear, hatred or mourning in members of this community to incite discussion among us, then we have some other very major issues to address entirely separate from the College's non-discrimination policy," he commented following the event.

Audience members asking questions and making comments on the policy were similarly divided over whether the policy should be modified. Several students asked whether those supporting the current non-discrimination policy would be more concerned if the military's discrimination was against other, larger minorities — such as African-Americans or Jewish students.

A Compromise Proposed

Towards the end of the 90-minute forum, Heidi Schuerger, an Oracle Database specialist for the College who recently served as civil affairs non-commissioned officer with the 4th Civil Affairs Group in Iraq, stood up and suggested points for compromise between supporters and opponents of the policy. After her comments several students in the audience were moved to applaud.

"I'm not really taking a position for or against the current policy," Schuerger told *The Campus*. "But I think it's clear that the policy the way it's currently stated isn't accomplishing what it's trying to accomplish."

Schuerger said Doucette had poorly represented the Marine Corps and argued that a more effective discussion of the military's policy and restrictions on the military's access to the campus might be points of compromise.

"At the very least, any briefing by a recruiting organization must satisfy the intent of the policy. If we know that an organization does not meet our policy but has satisfied the criteria of the informational briefing, we should still restrict their access to the campus, out of respect for those members of the community who may be offended by their presence and/or activities."

Woodward said he was opposed to compromises which still permitted military access to the campus. "In my eyes, one cannot compromise ideals while simultaneously maintaining one's integrity," he said.

Moss said he did not think a non-discrimination policy could have exceptions. "Either we allow discriminating organizations on campus or we don't."

Supporters of the current policy, however, said they would be open to discussion on a compromise. "If military recruiters had to stay away from dining halls or other high-traffic areas, but were still allowed to send all-school e-mails announcing recruiting visits and use classrooms to make presentations at night, that might be an acceptable compromise between the College and the military," said Morosani.

Knapp, agreed with Schuerger. "I like [her] suggestions," he said, "and I think I pretty much agree with her position." Knapp said he was not sure how a compromise might be reached that honored the spirit of the non-discrimination policy and also permitted access to the military.

Schuerger also suggested that the students on campus who currently serve, plan to serve or have friends or family serving in the military should create an organization on campus. "They should certainly consider having an organization that supports them. They should be getting together to discuss these issues," she said. "I would not be surprised if they said the military could not recruit on campus, and I would support a group to help the military on campus."

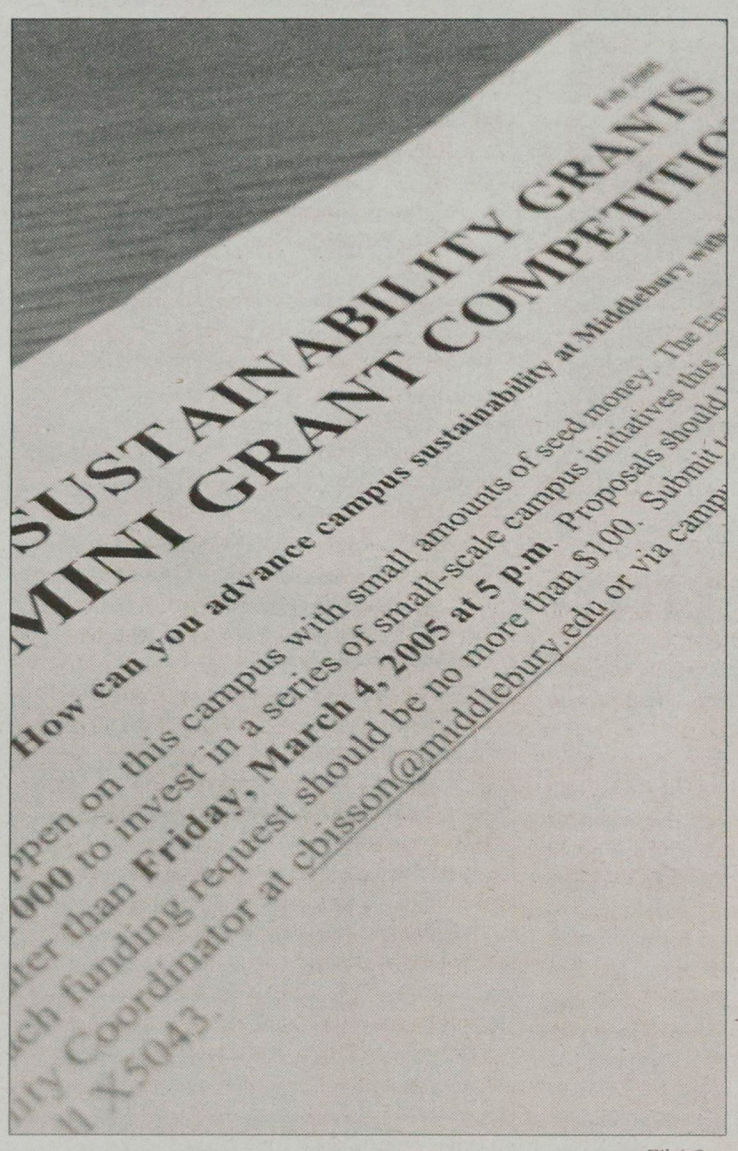
The Council could not specify a timeframe for their decision on the College's non-discrimination policy, but members said the questions and comments provided by students would stir good debate over the policy.

At the heart of the discussion, it seems, will be a question offered early in the forum by James Davis '07, who asked what the intent of the current policy was.

Davis questioned the panel, "What do [you] see the point of a non-discrimination policy being if it allows discriminatory recruiters to come in?"

For submissions on this topic, please see Opinions, page 8.

MINI GRANT MADNESS


SUSTAINABILITY GRANTS
MINI GRANT COMPETITIO
How can you advance campus sustainability at
ppen on this campus with small amounts of seed money. The
000 to invest in a series of small-scale campus initiatives this
ter than Friday, March 4, 2005 at 5 p.m. Proposals should
ch funding request should be no more than $100. Submit
ity Coordinator at cbisson@middlebury.edu or via camp
ll X5043.

Zilai Gan

Soliciting student and faculty applications, the Environmental Council is currently accepting applications for $100 mini grants.

Winter carnival numbers up from previous years

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of which included tickets for all events.

The opening night of Carnival featured a Cultural Gala in the Center for the Arts and a First Night Dance in McCullough Social Space featuring '80s cover band Orange Crush.

Although attendance at the Cultural Gala was equal to that of last year, the audience included more Middlebury College students, according to Harnett.

At one point, at least 600 people filled McCullough Social Space during Orange Crush's performance. "It was the biggest crowd I'd ever seen at the First Night Dance," Harnett said. "Orange Crush has played that event all four years, but this year was by far the best-attended performance."

The band had requested that the audience remain off stage to respect their equipment, and organizers had their hands full when attendees attempted to climb on stage during a break in the performance.

In past years, Friday afternoon has been reserved for commons-based activities. The board decided that the events had not been popular enough in past years to justify the additional cost. Instead, a series of dance-themed movies were shown in Dana Auditorium. "The attendance at these films was higher than we expected," Harnett said.

Another event that boasted significantly higher attendance this year was Friday night's Ice Show. Only one show took place this year, and attendance was the highest in recent history.

Also held on Friday evening was an early showing of the Island Calypso Jam-boree Night Club and Battle of the Bands in McCullough Social Space. Harnett noted that attendance was far lower than in previous years, probably due to the scheduling overlap with the Ice Show. Attendance at the second show was about the same as last year. "Over the past couple of years, we have noticed that attendance at the Night Club, which usually takes the form of a talent show, has declined," Harnett said. "At both shows last year there were empty seats, as there were at both shows this year."

The Winter Carnival board also decided to run extra shuttles to the Snow Bowl to support the ski teams in their races Friday and Saturday.

Harnett and Rydberg estimate that at least 1000 students attended the Winter Carnival Ball Saturday night — a number higher than in years past — and 550 tickets were sold in advance, either included in packages or purchased in the dining halls. Harnett remarked that the arrangement of Nelson arena made the ball appear more crowded than it actually was. "Several people had told me that it seemed so much more crowded than last year, even though this year's attendance was only slightly higher," she said.

Public Safety emphasized that Winter Carnival 2005 was an especially smooth weekend. "We had a great carnival," Assistant Director of Public Safety Melody Perkins said. "There were very few incidents and the ones we had were taken care of quite quickly." She described the often alcohol-laden and incident report-wrought weekend as "low key and quiet."

Two students, however, were removed from the ball as a result of over-intoxication. One was taken to the Porter Hospital emergency room and the other to Parton Health Center.

Nirvana Bhatia

Students will be required to use their proximate access cards in order to enter dormitories. The new policy will be effective March 28.

Access system prepares to go live

SGA surveys students while task force implements plan

By Katie Flagg
News editor

Following President Ronald D. Liebowitz's Feb. 13 announcement of new security protocol, the task force for the implementation of the enhanced access system has been hard at work facilitating the adoption of new security measures. According to Assistant Treasurer Tom Corbin, head of the task force charged with implementing Liebowitz's 24-hour locking policy, the enhanced access system is scheduled for a "go live date" of March 28.

The task force has focused its energies in the past weeks on making sure that both faculty and staff that need access to residence halls during the day have both cards and access to these facilities. The group is coordinating publicity to educate students and community members regarding upcoming security changes, and signs are being printed and e-mails scripted to facilitate campus awareness. The task force is also making long-term recommendations that some additional doors be placed under access control, securing residence halls in mixed-use facilities like the Hepburn and Forest halls.

The task force is also working hand-in-hand with the College's Commons system to prepare students for the upcoming change. Commons Deans sent out e-mails to all students on Tuesday announcing the trial run of the new system. On March 16, 17 and 18 — the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday prior to Spring Recess — all dormitories will be locked in order to test the new policy.

In an effort to ensure that all students possess access cards by the time of the trial run — and certainly by the time of the full implementation of the new policy — the task force directing implementation has granted a period of amnesty for all students who have lost their school-issue access cards. Until March 7, students will be able to request a replacement access card free of charge. Prior to this decision, Public Safety charged students a $10 replacement fee for lost access cards.

In order to obtain new access cards, students are encouraged to send a request, via e-mail, to Commons coordinators including their name and student ID number. Commons offices will be organizing the distribution of new access cards in an attempt to, as Dean of Cook Commons David Edlestein said, ensure students are not "literally left out in the cold."

As Liebowitz's task force is hard at work preparing to enact the new locking schedule, and as Commons work to replace lost access cards, the Student Government Association (SGA) is at work on its own — gauging student reactions to the administration's new security policies. SGA President Andrew Jacobi '05 and Wonnacott Senator Eli Berman '07 presented a proposal Sunday to conduct a survey on Bannerweb to gauge student reactions to the new locking schedule.

While some members of the SGA felt that the decision had already been made by the administration, and that a survey would have little effect on the actual decision to alter security procedures, others stressed the importance of exploring student opinion on the issue.

"Right now, the only plans the SGA has regarding the security system is this survey," said Berman. "All anecdotal evidence points to students being very upset over the implementation of the 24-hour locking schedule, [and the] SGA wants to know the overall feeling on campus."

Following discussion, nine members of the SGA voted in favor of the survey, 3 in opposition and 2 abstained from voting. The SGA survey will be conducted online and will assess and gauge how many students lock their doors, when these students lock their doors and will attempt to discover if students will lock their doors less frequently with outside doors locked at all hours of the day. The survey will also ask students if they feel safer with the implementation of the new security policy.

"We aim to ask unbiased questions, both about how students feel about the decision [to lock doors 24 hours a day] and how safe students feel on campus," said Jacobi. "While we understand that this decision was made for reasons that did not include student opinion, we felt that it was important for the administration to know how students feel about this decision."

The survey will also "help answer the question of whether the students who were so upset by this decision make up a vocal minority or whether the majority of students really do feel that this decision was not the right one to make," said Jacobi.

Sunday's discussion — and the subsequent decision to issue a survey — signals the SGA's first entrance into the debate of the new policy.

"SGA was not included in this decision to any degree," said Berman. "Even if the decision had already been made, it should have been at least discussed with the student body before it was implemented. This is our school, and we have the right to be heard."

Jacobi's personal opinions regarding the new policy had little to do with his support of the SGA-sponsored survey. "Personally, I do not have a problem with the decision," he said. "I welcome any reasonable decision that will enhance student safety on campus, and I think that there have been too many incidents of crime and theft within residential spaces this year."

That said, Jacobi strongly supports a survey of student opinion. "While the survey may not have any effect on the decision to carry out the new policy, it is always important for administrators to realize the effects their decisions have on the student body, and that is what we are trying to facilitate," he said.

public safety log

FEBRUARY 23, 2005 TO FEBRUARY 26, 2005

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
2/23/05	Unknown	Theft	Skis	N/A	No Suspects
2/23/05	Unknown	Vandalism	Table	Fletcher	Referred to Commons Dean
2/25/05	12:22 a.m.	Vandalism	Emergency Light	Painter	No Suspects
2/26/05	1:17 p.m.	Theft	From Vehicle	Q Lot	No Suspects
2/26/05	Unknown	Vandalism	Dinnerware	Ross	No Suspects

This week, Public Safety reported two incidents of alcohol possession by minors. These incidents occured in KDR and Proctor and were referred to Commons Deans.

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY THOMAS C. DRESCHER AND KATIE FLAGG

Bush proposes Perkins loan cut

Students may soon have to dig even deeper into their pockets for tuition payments if President Bush has his way. The president's new education budget proposal calls for the termination of the Perkins Loan Program to make up for funding shortages in other sectors. Each year, Colleges and Universities lend billions of dollars to students through this federally subsidized program to encourage the pursuit of higher education.

If the Bush administration's education budget is approved, both students and institutions will suffer without a strong federally subsidized loan program to alleviate rising tuition costs. As a comprise, the proposed budget offers an insubstantial increase - $100 per year for the next five years - in Pell Grants, but this increase will not offset the damage done by eliminating the Perkins Loan Program, which is regarded as both a cheap and cost-effective for schools and government administrators.

— *The Daily Vidette* (Illinois State U.)

U.Va. adopts J-term schedule

The University of Virginia announced a new university-wide initiative to include a January Term in University curriculum. The initiative — sponsored by the Office of the Vice President and Provost — strives to provide U.Va. students with unique opportunities to take classes in an intensive, month-long format.

The University is currently accepting course proposals for January Term 2006. Two hundred sixty-four students and 21 members of the faculty participated in the pilot program earlier this year — a program that sent students abroad to Italy and Spain, to the field for anthropological research in New Mexico and to the classroom for courses on campus in Charlottesville. The response to this program was positive, and 100 percent of students who completed an online evaluation of January Term courses believed the University should continue to offer January-specific classes.

— UVA Web site

UNC protests ban on gay books

University of North Carolina students recently protested an Alabama state legislature bill that would prohibit the use of state funds for purchasing literature associated in any way with homosexuality by reading texts that would be barred under the proposal outside the University's student union building.

The bill, authored by Alabama State Representative Gerald Allen, proposes a ban on state acquisition of any texts that acknowledge homosexuality or were written by gay authors. If passed, the bill would refuse students access to works by, among others, William Shakespeare, Plutarch and Oscar Wilde.

College and university students across the country have been mobilizing to speak out against Allen's bill amid concern that the legislation will thrive and spread to other states.

Aware of the protest in Chapel Hill, Allen defended his bill, asserting that he is primarily concerned with limiting state funds used to promote "unhealthy lifestyles" such as homosexuality.

— *The Crimson White* (U. Alabama)

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Ross Conrad buzzes with activity

By Polly Johnson
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

If you've ever wanted to meet someone who is the General Manager of a soap store and a beekeeper in his spare time, look no further than Ross Conrad of Middlebury, the acting general manager of Vermont Soap, a company located in town on Exchange St. The company specializes in the production of organic soaps, bath and shower gels, pet shampoo, organic household products and cleaning supplies. Conrad became involved in the company in 2001 when he met the owner and founder of Vermont Soap at a conference. He began working for the sales and marketing team and eventually worked his way up to General Manager.

Raised in Manhattan, Conrad decided that New York was just not for him, and moved to Vermont in 1988. He found work and has been living here ever since.

But how did he become involved with beekeeping? "During the winter of 1990-1991, I started to do a lot of soul-searching about my life, what I was doing with it and where I wanted to go", explained Conrad. After spending time with the Bear Tribe Medicine Society, he had a "religious experience" where he became "aware of the fact that there is more to this world than what we are able to see, hear, feel, smell and taste." During a specific ceremonial ritual with the tribe, called a Vision Quest, he had his first encounter with a honeybee. "I remember observing many yellow jackets and wasps, but no honeybees. Anyway, this honeybee seemed to be trying to tell me something. It spent several minutes flying around me and landing on various parts of my body before it flew off." Six months after his experience with the tribe, Conrad returned to Middlebury, where he was offered a job as a beekeeper by a local beekeeper he knew at the Champlain Valley Apiaries, Bill Mraz. Mraz's father, Charles, who died in 1999, was a "world-renowned beekeeper and apitherapist" and it was from observing Bill, Charles and the bees that Conrad received the best beekeeping education he could get. Charles Mraz was one of the early pioneers of beekeeping in the Champlain Valley. He founded the Champlain Valley Apiaries in 1931 and wrote a book entitled "Health and the Honeybee," which advocated the use of bee venom therapy. Since his death, beekeeping has continued to flourish in the Champlain Valley.

Courtesy
Ross Conrad poses with his observation hive, a structure made from red oak. He is a successful beekeeper and business man in Middlebury, VT.

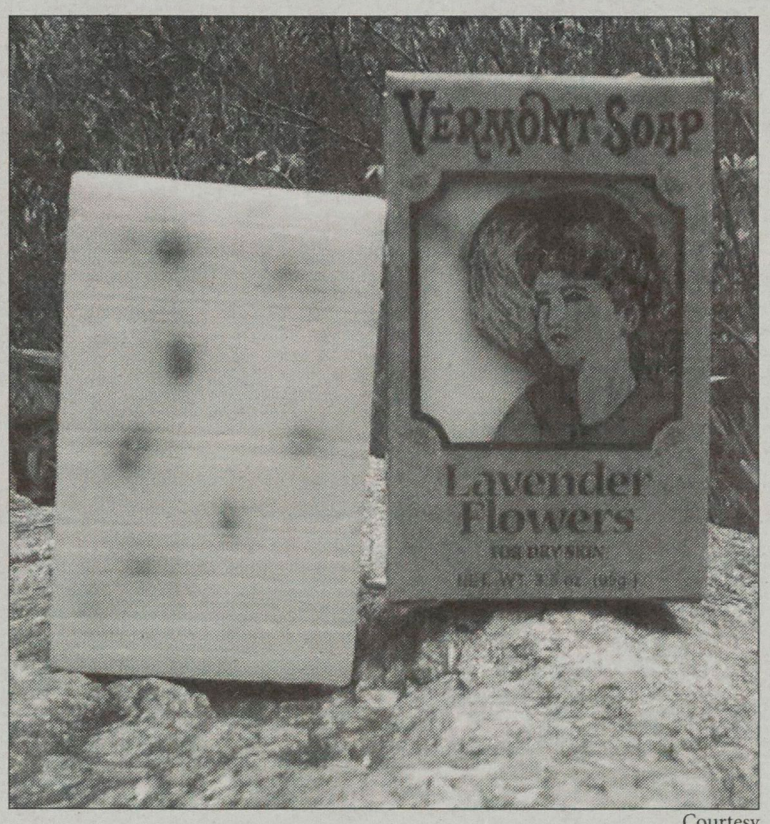
After spending many years learning the ropes of beekeeping, Conrad has become an established beekeeper who sells the honey he bottles at the Natural Food Co-op here in town. But there is quite an extensive process that comes before the bottling and selling. Beekeeping entails "a lot of hard work and the constant threat of being stung," although Conrad noted that "honeybees are a lot easier to work with than most people." Not to mention that the "primary risk in keeping bees is financial," and that there is the "possibility of throwing out your back lifting the supers full of honey."

Like any other job, beekeeping requires specific conditions and proper care. "Like other agricultural endeavors, beekeeping is very reliant on the weather. Too much rain, too little rain, extremely hot or cold weather will all have an impact on a hive. In Vermont the average honey harvest is usually between 30 and 40 pounds of honey per hive per year," Conrad explained. And in order to be most prolific, "honeybees typically need temperatures of at least 50 degrees Fahrenheit in order for it to be warm enough for them to fly and gather nectar. Flower nectar is basically diluted sugar water." Beekeeping also needs to be practiced in the ideal climate. "During the winter months," Conrad explained, "the honeybees become inactive due to the cold. When temperatures drop below 50 degrees, the bees will form a cluster. They basically snuggle together and use their body heat to keep themselves warm. As long as they have honey to eat they can flex their wing muscles and generate heat. In Vermont, bees typically need about 80 pounds of stored honey in their hive in order to get them through the dearth of fresh nectar over the winter."

Once these conditions are met, and the hive of bees has been established, what comes next? "The beekeeper just lets them live out their lives collecting nectar and making honey in the hopes that they will store more than they will need to get them through the winter. The beekeeper then harvests the excess honey. Of course the conscientious beekeeper will take the time to regularly inspect the bees to make sure they are healthy and disease and parasite free."

Conrad is clearly one of these "conscientious beekeepers" — not just in the way he cares for them, but in the way he allows them to be a part of his life. The bees "have taught me many lessons," he said. For one, "they are one of the few creatures in nature that has a tendency to make more honey than they need. Of course what happens to this excess honey is that the beekeeper will come along and take it from the bees. From this I have learned not to hoard and take more than I really need."

Additionally, Conrad noted, "The honeybee is the only higher form of animal life I know of that does not harm a single living thing as it goes about its life. All the bee requires from the world outside the hive is fresh air, sunshine, water, pollen, nectar from flowers and some plant resins to keep healthy. In this way the honeybee actually makes the world a better place, simply by taking what it needs to survive. This is a wonderful lesson that I continually work to incorporate into my life — how to take from the world what I need to live my life, and do it in a way that leave the world better than how I found it. When I imagine what this planet might be like if all people endeavored to live this way, I envision a very different world."



Courtesy
LEFT: Conrad observes his bees during the extensive honeymaking process. He bottles the honey that he collects at and sells it at the Natural Food Co-op ~~in~~ Middlebury. **~~RIGHT: In addition to his beekeeping, Conrad is the general manager of Vermont~~** Soap.

Vermont troops return home safely

After a year in Iraq, the worst is over for some

By Sarah Shaikh
Staff Writer

Military officials confirmed on Monday that a unit of 200 Vermont Army National Guards, who were deployed to Iraq on Jan. 24, 2004, will be returning to the United States Thursday, March 3. This group of returning guardsmen, the first to be deployed to Iraq from Vermont, is a section of the First Battalion of the 86th field Artillery. They were mainly based at the Baghdad International Airport escorting convoys and working on security details. The guardsmen were also assigned to special handle requests such as providing security to generals and escorting two convoys of Korean soldiers through Iraq. Additionally, they provided school supplies and humanitarian aid to schools near Baghdad. They received awards for pristine upkeep of their equipment.

Along with the admiration and awards, however, came the tragedy inevitable with war. The Battalion lost four soldiers, with others sustaining numerous injuries, during the tour. "They proved themselves to be extremely competent and in the end felt they had edified their active-duty counterparts," said Vermont Guard spokeswoman First Lt. Veronica Saffo.

The guardsmen left Iraq on Feb. 8 and were sent to the staging area in Kuwait. They are scheduled to arrive in Fort Dix, N.J. late on Thursday, March 3 and will have to undergo a four to 10 day processing and debriefing procedure before they will be able to return to Vermont. The stop over at Fort Dix is part of a standard procedure to help guardsmen leave their positions of active duty and return to their civilian lives. It includes completing forms related to payment as well as medical and dental screenings. There will also be treatment available for guardsmen suffering from combat stress.

Saffo stated, "Families will not be able to see their loved ones in New Jersey because the soldiers are still on active duty." Once back in Vermont the soldiers will have a quiet homecoming ceremony with their families.

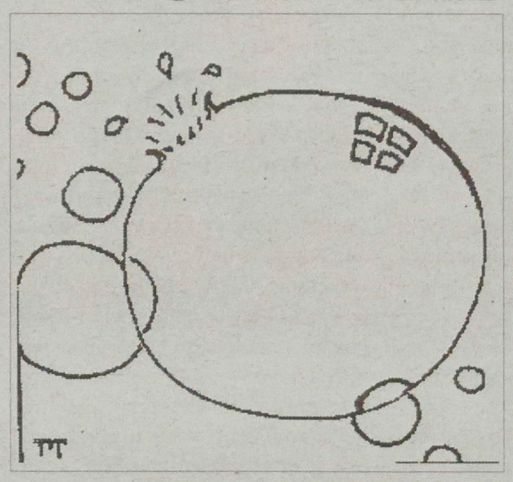
Courtesy

After losing four troops abroad, the Vermont Battalion is relieved to return to U.S. soil and reunite with family.

What is interesting in this saga, from a historical perspective, is the increased importance in the position of the National Guard within the hierarchy of the United States Military. "I can remember days that we would train until 4:30 in the afternoon and then sit around a fire and play cards and talk. We don't do that anymore," said Lloyd Touchette, a 57-year-old guardsman. This is largely due to the decrease in personnel numbers within the army in the last 20 years. Though this increase in Guard participation during conflicts is necessary to the military, it has greatly affected those who chose to join the Guard for specific reasons, especially in the state of Vermont. For instance, in Vermont many of the people who enrolled in the National Guard in order to respond to natural disasters or those who enrolled on a part-time basis have been sent overseas to serve in combat. As reported in the *Burlington Free Press*, Staff Sergeant Frederick LeClair Jr. is a prime example of this. Now 40-years-old and a single father of two boys, LeClair joined the Guard right out of high school with the hope of serving Vermont when disasters occurred. "I signed up because every time you turned around, the National Guard was there for tornadoes, floods, fires, and I've always wanted to help the community." He instead was deployed, along with 330 of his fellow guardsmen, to Iraq last January. "I might not come home. This could be the last time I see everybody. They'll leave a light on for me at home, and I hope I'll come back," he said then.

"I might not come home. This could be the last time I see everybody. They'll leave a light on for me at home, and I hope I'll come back."
— Sergeant Frederick LeClair Jr.

BEYOND THE BUBBLE



BY CLAIRE NIELSON AND LISIE MEHLMAN

Our friend Nura is like a demigod to us. She can do backbends with the best of them. (Claire wanted to write that Nura could turn straw into gold. Lisie does not understand how she is friends with Claire. Then she is reminded of — actually, she just doesn't know). Nura wears cool earrings. We thought, with stellar logic, that if we wore cool earrings, then maybe, just maybe, we too could achieve demigod status. So to town we went. More specifically, we entered the colorful and vibrant world of Middlebury's own Beads and Fibers located just around the river bend.

When you first walk into the shop, the abundance of knitting supplies and multi-colored yarns can be shocking. Or, if you are like Claire, they might fill you with the overwhelming desire to knit booties for small grandchildren. Or her cats, since, clearly she will be a lonely old cat-lady. That will be difficult since she's allergic. Hey, it's better than being Lisie, who already is, according to some, a Yiddish grandmother. Apparently kids these days don't use the term "sexual urges" to describe the burgeoning sexuality of previously pre-pubescent friends. Who knew?

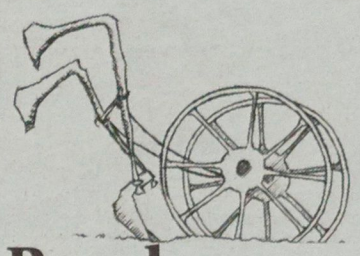
Once Lisie managed to drag Claire away from the yarn, we freaked. We have about as much creativity and artistic skill as... something with really little creativity and artistic skill. We were instructed as to how to go about picking out beads and earring posts. We, for one (or two?), did not know just how many different varieties of earrings posts there were. Oh the things we learn whilst seeking adventure.

We wandered around the bead table, feeling lost and confused, kind of like when you can't find your friends at Proctor and you just wander around the salad bar pretending to be remarkably interested in the soy beans. Which, by the way, have not been too great lately. We had big plans of revolutionizing the art of earring making. Then those dreams were crushed... BannerWeb style. We thought about making blue and yellow earrings, because our Fairfield County friend, who basically embodies all that is prep in the world, told us that blue and yellow were the new green and pink. Instead, we made the most boring, simple, untrendy earrings you could possibly make. We kind of like them.

When the time came to add up the bill, Lisie meticulously gave it the old college try. As it turns out, long addition is not her forte. And now we know why she's a history major. But that's still better than being a cat-lady.

Our new earrings have gotten us a lot of compliments. And a lot of guys. And a lot of pain in the form of an ear infection. One of those statements is a lie. A big fat lie. You decide which one. We are trying to increase reader participation. Don't worry — we haven't forgotten how small our fan base is. And by fan base we do mean... Markandbar, we love you!

Basically, we have Nura to thank for inspiring this week's adventure. However, Nura doesn't read, and certainly doesn't love Claire and Lisie — mere mortals — enough to read their article. But if you happen to see Nura and her dangly earrings, ask her to do a backbend for you! She's always happy to oblige.



Rural Banter

BY ERICA GOODMAN

Coydog: [k dôg , -d g] n. offspring of a coyote and a dog

From the moment of birth, mothers thrive on worrying about their children. What results is a long list of demands to ensure that their greatest fears do not lead to the demise of their offspring. My mother, of course, is no exception. Always wear your seatbelt. Don't forget the sunscreen. And finally, don't go running without your pepper spray! A strange request, one might think. My relatives live in all of the houses along my running route. The chances are very slim that an irate aunt or uncle will jump out of their house in a panty-hose mask to steal my wallet. But the root of my mother's concern is the villainous predator inhabiting the woods of North America — the coydog. They are a mangy beast whose soulful, child-like cry echoes through the mountains on many a starry evening.

The coydog's hunting strategies range from sheer predatorial to scavenger. He will dabble into a garden as well, sneaking vegetables when the urge strikes. The problem lies when our furry friend decides to specialize his taste. Whereas many Middlebury students are reluctant to eat anything other than Proctor fare, a coydog will sometimes choose to only feast on a single type of animal. Wyle E. Coyote chased the road runner but in the Northeast kingdom, a coydog often chooses an easier bait — domesticated livestock, deer and, according to my mother, 20-year-old joggers. The picky eating habits of the woodsy meat-eater become problematic when he steals chicken dinners and fresh steak from local farmers on a regular basis.

If you follow any local news, you know that the widespread presence of the coydog and his pure-blooded cousin, the coyote, has been a topic of hot debate. For some, the solution is clear. Addison County hunters have been organizing coyote hunting parties to reduce the state's coyote population and protect the deer. Hunting is part of the area's culture, a practice that has bonded Vermonters for centuries and bolstered businesses too. Reducing the coydog and coyote population would protect the animals and the livelihood of area farmers. Uproar from the opposition surrounds sentiments that the practice is unethical — hunting one innocent species to stop it from hunting another hardly seems fair — and ultimately inefficient, since the nature of this beast is to procreate in proportion to their population threat.

The question of controlling a wild population is difficult to answer. Sure, mother may sleep better at night knowing her daughter will not have to ever try to outrun a coydog. Yet, she would also lose one of her favorite summer activities — sitting on the porch in the quiet of twilight and listening to the heart-breaking moans of the wild dogs as they embrace the darkness.

opinions

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Editorial

The 2005 *Campus* Community Awards

Of course, there are so many different people and organizations at this College that are deserving of an award, for the work they do and for the contributions they make to the College community. However, as it is the season for giving special mention for particular deeds done, *The Campus* would like to bestow the following awards on the following deserving recipients. Before you groan and turn the page, worry not: this awards ceremony will not take three hours to complete.

The award for Constructive Commentary goes to the Community Council for the open-forum held at Dana Auditorium on Monday afternoon. The Council and members of the Middlebury College community who participated should be applauded for taking part in the discussion on the College's anti-discrimination policy and how it is implemented with regards to on-campus recruiting. As many present articulated, discussion of ideas and contrasting viewpoints is the backbone of a liberal arts education, both in and out of the classroom. Though few people came to agreement over every point that was raised — and the focus tended to shift from the anti-discrimination policy to the military's "Don't ask, Don't tell" standard — the open-forum was an irrefutable demonstration of why constructive dialogue is important and should be fostered at Middlebury.

The Amnesty Award goes to the task force charged with implementing the 24-hour locking policy. Despite the fact that a large part of the student body is still upset over the change in locking procedure that will take affect March 28, everyone should give the task force and the commons offices a standing ovation for allowing those who have lost their proximate access cards to receive a replacement card free of charge. If only this could be an annual occurrence… (Note: This year's *Campus* Darwin Award will go to the student who forgets to pick up their new card and freezes while waiting for someone to open their dorm door). Honorable mention goes to Public Safety officers who stop and open doors for those students who have forgotten their cards.

The Iron Chef Award goes to the chefs at the Atwater dining hall. Weathering the move from one facility to a brand new one, your skills at adapting to your new surroundings do you and your dining hall credit. Students not only make the trek across campus to take in the ambiance at the now-opened dining hall, but they are also drawn by the promise of a sumptuous meal.

Finally, the Clean Sweep Award goes to facilities management for their exceptionally efficient handling of the snow that has blanketed Middlebury. As soon as there is a hint of inclement weather, crews are out shoveling, plowing and spreading dirt over the paths to allow easy passage for both pedestrians and drivers. Considering the quantity of snow that has fallen, sidewalks and roads have been cleared quickly and have presented tardy students with no excuse for their entrance to class 10 minutes after the lecture started. Additionally, the custodial staff deserves honorable mention for their work clearing out the salt, dirt and water that gets tracked in from the snowy outdoors. Their efforts prevent everyone from slipping on muddy floors.

OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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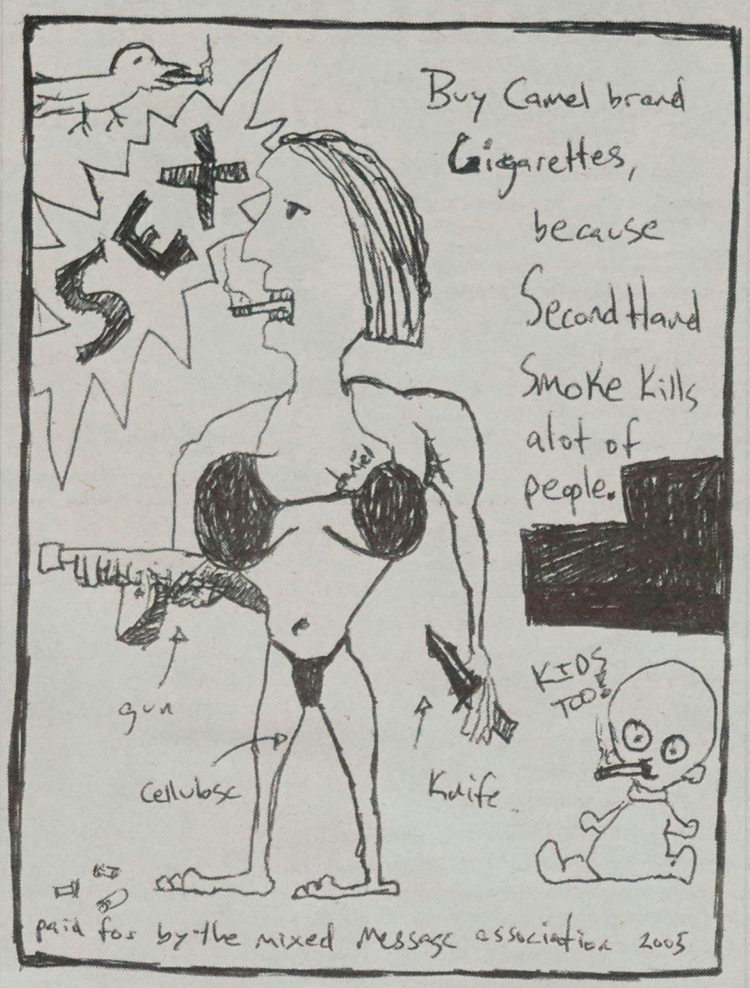


Persecution Mania

Pursuant to the majority of this school's faculty's agreement that Congress' "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" legislation should entail that military recruiters not be allowed on campus, and Harvard's President's postulation that, scientifically speaking, it is within the realm of possibility that the majority of women are less fit by nature to perform well in the hard sciences, I have formulated a number of proposals which are worthy of your consideration.

First, we ought to forbid the use of government-issue $20 bills at Midd Express, the Grille, the Juice Bar, the College Store and other places of business on campus because Andrew Jackson, the President whose image is emblazoned on each and every $20 bill, pursued policies of discrimination and genocide towards Native Americans.

Second, as we have opted to label the Christmas tree a "holiday tree," we ought to tear out the organ, overhaul the interior and remove the steeple from Mead Chapel because the centerpiece pipe organ and the church spire is unquestionably Christian in design, as it may be found only in churches of that religion — such décor is invariably absent from synagogues, mosques and temples — in order to affirm Middlebury's secular charter and maintain Mead Chapel as a non-denominational, persecution-free place of worship.

My "Constitutional Law" class's field-trip this fall to hear Associate Justice Antonin Scalia of the United States Supreme Court at the University of Vermont ought to have been forbidden because his biting dissent in the recent homosexual rights case *Lawrence v. Texas* affirms the constitutionality of anti-sodomy statutes directed exclusively towards non-heterosexual activity. And, should the college ever be so honored as to receive an offer from any Supreme Court Justice to give a talk here on campus, we ought to refuse their offer politely, as the Supreme Court has never overturned the 1944 case *Korematsu v. United States*, in which the Court affirmed the internment of Japanese Americans solely on the basis of race. Given the great focus of terrorist profiling efforts on foreign Muslims as well as Arab Americans, and the continuing detainment without trial of suspected enemy combatants in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and elsewhere, the continued legality of internment ought to cause great concern to our community, and we ought to take every opportunity to state emphatically our disapproval.

Before commencing any forum for discussing issues on campus, we ought to state that the idea of a "fair" debate is an entirely social distinction, and although it has nothing in itself to do with the subject matter, this will not necessarily appear to be the case to the participants and any comment which might disclose some bias or entertain the possibility of a socially inappropriate opinion subjects that person to great personal risk, such as loss of a teaching position or social probation.

Finally, although my list of proposals is certainly incomplete, we ought to add to our school's mission statement the proposition that every public act that in some way uses or establishes power — which is to say, every public act — is something that must be put down by force lest it establish an unequal power relationship, and that we intend to prepare our students for the world by encouraging them to make no statement and to choose no course of action until the criteria for making it are certain to be without any form of bias whatsoever.

I believe that these proposals, if implemented, would continue to pave the College's way towards the establishment of a respectful academic and social environment.

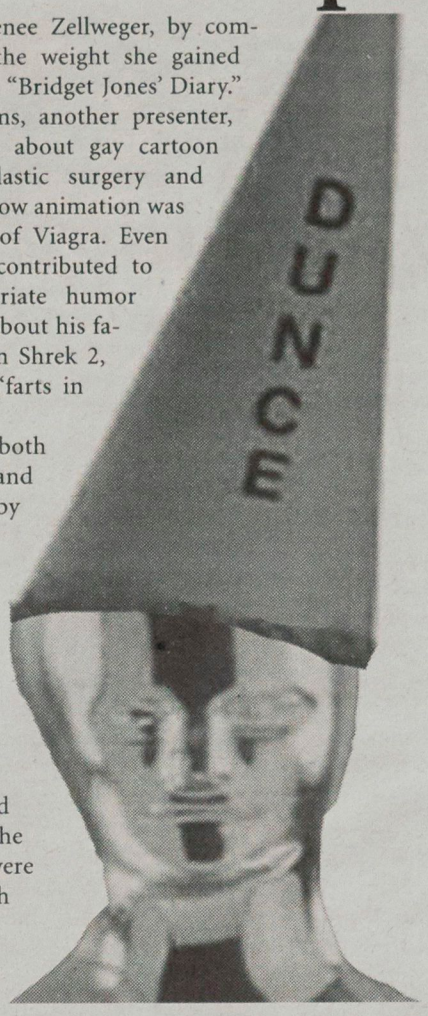
KIERNAN McALPINE '05
A POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR
FROM HOUSTON, TEXAS.

Oscar night wins worst performance

Every February, I feel a twinge of giddy excitement as Oscar night approaches. I have watched the Academy Awards ever since I was a little girl — this year's show served a double purpose as it would help me with the transition from the excitement of Winter Carnival to this week's line-up of classes and midterms. The pre-show began as usual — enthusiastic commentators interviewed the actors on the red carpet, women gleamed in their glorious satin gowns of all shades and even the most slovenly actors were dressed smartly in dapper ties and shining shoes. The actors, the media and viewers like myself were all prepared for a special and widely broadcasted event that would honor Hollywood's most talented men and women.

Comedian Chris Rock, host of this year's Academy Awards, began the ceremony with a few opening jokes. As he began speaking, however, his humor was far from what I expected would be included on such an elegant occasion. Rock told the audience, who was giving him a standing ovation, to "sit your asses down." He then poked fun at Michael Moore's weight, President Bush's policies and the types of films that were targeted at African Americans. He compared the war in Iraq to a squabble between Gap and Banana Republic, where soldiers stained Gap khakis with their blood after giving up their lives over Banana Republic's supposed creation of "toxic tank tops."

Rock proceeded to introduce one of the presenters, Renee Zellweger, by commenting on the weight she gained for her role in "Bridget Jones' Diary." Robin Williams, another presenter, cracked jokes about gay cartoon characters, plastic surgery and nipples, and how animation was like a bottle of Viagra. Even Mike Myers contributed to the innapropriate humor with his line about his favorite scene in Shrek 2, where Shrek "farts in the mud."

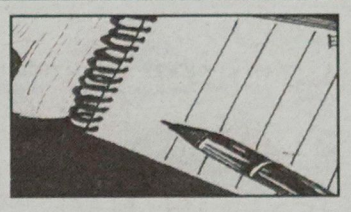


I was both appalled and surprised by the tastelessness of the choreographed jokes. One would think that some of the most well paid writers in the country were clever enough to create a script that could amuse viewers without bathroom humor and crude lines like "Kiss my black ass." The jokes were both disrespectful and distracting — I found it difficult to concentrate on who was being honored throughout the show.

Perhaps Hollywood was trying to broaden its viewership by dumbing down the ceremony's comedic aspects and making the affair less uptight. But do these actors and actresses need to be pointed out and insulted by the host just to gain more viewers? Surely, there must be some other way to attract a wider audience. Foreigners already stereotype the United States of America as being a country without any culture.

The lack of courtesy and graciousness shown by the hosts and presenters certainly corroborates this kind of claim. Perhaps Americans, particularly those in Hollywood who would like put forth a better face to the international world, will be more mindful of their projected image the next time around.

AMANDA BRICKELL '08
An undeclared major
from New York, N.Y.



NOTES
FROM THE DESK

I did something really dumb this weekend. I'll spare you all of the details, but at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday morning I found myself in McCullough glancing back and forth between a neon-green package slip and the closed mailroom window. Somewhere inside that dark mailroom was my Internet-ordered Winter Carnival dress and all I could do was stare wide-eyed and groan, "Ugh, I thought the mailroom was open until 12 p.m. on Saturday."

Actually, that *would* have been all I could do if this weren't Middlebury College. Instead, I went upstairs to the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership (CCAL) office where I found Assistant Director of Student Organizations and Administration Charlotte Chase. Charlotte didn't have a key to the mailroom, but by the time she told me that she would have driven to her house if she had a key there just to help me get my dress, I realized I wasn't alone.

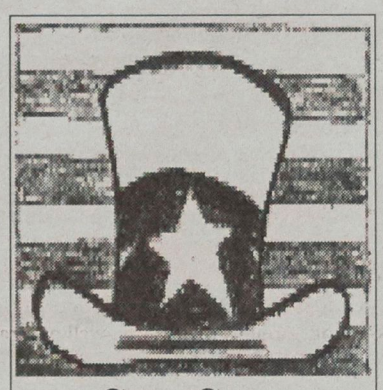
Ten minutes later, Public Safety Dispatcher Debra Ekdahl had already promised to send an officer to McCullough to liberate my dress. Enter my angel in uniform — Public Safety Officer Kathleen "K.K." Keeler. Not only did she retrieve my forlorn package from the once-locked mailroom, but she was so nice and understanding in the process that I actually thought I was going to cry.

Sure, it would have been a lot easier to pay attention to the actual hours of the mailroom. But if I hadn't been so stupid, I never would have been reminded of how lucky Middlebury students are to attend a school where staff members go out of their way to help us out — and do so with a smile.

So I want to say "Thank You." Not just to the women who helped me retrieve my dress, but to everyone staff member at Middlebury College who goes out of his or her way to help make our lives easier, even when we don't deserve it.

When people ask me what is special about Middlebury College, I often tell then that I feel "taken care of" here. Whether it is a custodial team that cleans up messes that they have no business bothering with, Public Safety officers who come to the rescue of access cardless students at all hours of the night or women who know how important a new dress is on the day of Winter Carnival Ball, the staff of Middlebury College have earned my respect and gratitude a hundred times over.

MEGAN O'KEEFE
Managing Editor



Sam Says
A Political Commentary
By Sam Wilson

Bush says sayonara to SSA

The White House and its allies like to talk about how they want to "save," "strengthen" and "reform" Social Security. I find that interesting considering a leaked, internal White House memo written by Karl Rove deputy Paul Wehner.

Most of the memo goes over privatization talking points, but in the call-to-arms conclusion, Wehner writes, "For the first time in six decades, the Social Security battle is one we can win." Social Security has been a "battle" for 60 years?

I did not know that. I thought this sudden urge to rip apart the system and remake it was to "save" it, not to win some political battle older than my parents.

But when you look at the facts, Wehner's little sentence starts to make a bit more sense. Social Security is not in a crisis, but for a while the White House insisted it was.

The White House says that private investment accounts will "strengthen" the program, but the strength of the program comes from the fact that it is social, not private. The Bush administration would have us believe that private accounts will also save the program from insolvency in some 40 years.

But they won't. Insolvency depends on how much money goes in and out of the program. Raising taxes and/or cutting benefits are the only way to save it from insolvency.

So, the White House's rhetoric does not match the reality of the situation.

But, given the reality that Social Security is in no crisis, and only faces long term problems which it will always face, why is the administration insisting that a massive overhaul is needed?

That answer is where Wehner starts to make sense. Since its inception, conservatives have hated Social Security on ideological grounds — it increases the size of the government and demands taxes. In 1936, Alf Landon campaigned against Franklin Roosevelt calling Social Security a "hoax," and saying the tax dollars were "wasted." In 1964, Barry Goldwater commented that the program, "perhaps should be abolished."

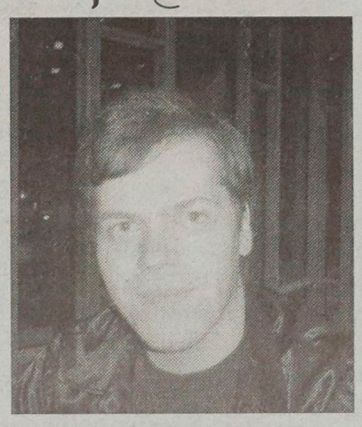
This is the first time in 60 years the ideological conservatives have the potential to dismantle a practical program.

No pragmatic reasons exist for privatizing the program, only ideological ones. The president's rhetoric is very pragmatic though. Social Security is a wildly popular and extremely successful government program. People like it. Thus, the rhetoric for gutting it has to sound as though the alternatives are unacceptable. The people are not as ideological as the administration, so arguments against the program simply because it is a huge government program are doomed to fail.

This is the first time the GOP controls both houses of Congress when the President and Vice President do not have to run for reelection. Thus, they attacked the so-called "third-rail" of American politics. This is the first time in 60 years the ideological conservatives have the potential to dismantle a practical program.

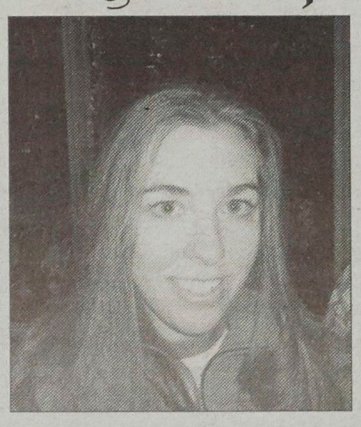
The current Social Security battle is not about reality, it is about ideology. That is why the Democrats and more pragmatic Republicans need to stand rigid against privatization — no surrender, no capitulation and no compromise. Government succeeds through practicality, ideology destroys it.

The Middlebury Campus online poll



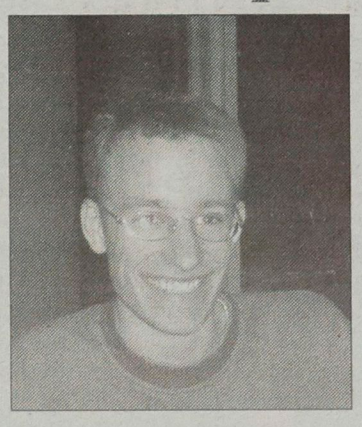
UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES. NAPSTER IS THE DEVIL.

—DEREK WALKER '06



NOT WHEN YOU CAN GET IT ALL FOR FREE THROUGH PIRACY.

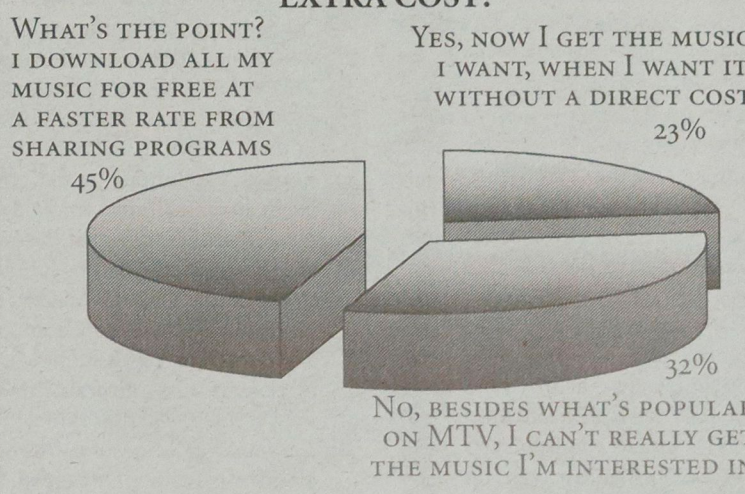
—NICOLE MADDOX '06



NAPSTER IS EVEN MORE EVIL THAN DICK CHENEY, AND YET, EVIL IS SORT OF COOL.

—TIM BAHLS '06

DO YOU THINK NAPSTER IS WORTH THE EXTRA COST?


WHAT'S THE POINT? I DOWNLOAD ALL MY MUSIC FOR FREE AT A FASTER RATE FROM SHARING PROGRAMS
45%
YES, NOW I GET THE MUSIC I WANT, WHEN I WANT IT, WITHOUT A DIRECT COST
23%
32%
NO, BESIDES WHAT'S POPULAR ON MTV, I CAN'T REALLY GET THE MUSIC I'M INTERESTED IN

Results based on 84 responses collected between February 24 and March 1 at www.middleburycampus.com

NEXT WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:
SHOULD THE MIDDLEBURY DISCRIMINATION POLICY BE CHANGED?

Napster gives students the best option

I was disappointed with the article about Napster in *The Middlebury Campus* this week. I felt like the tone was meant to drum up controversy where not much has existed before. Yes, we spend Student Activities Fee (SFA) money on Napster, but frankly, that is what the SAF is for — to be spent on extracurricular activities for students, with the aim of benefiting as many students as possible. The reason Napster is here now and the reason the group chose to keep Napster as part of the student experience is that it provides an excellent service. Students can listen to almost any music they want on any PC on or off campus without worrying about viruses or the RIAA.

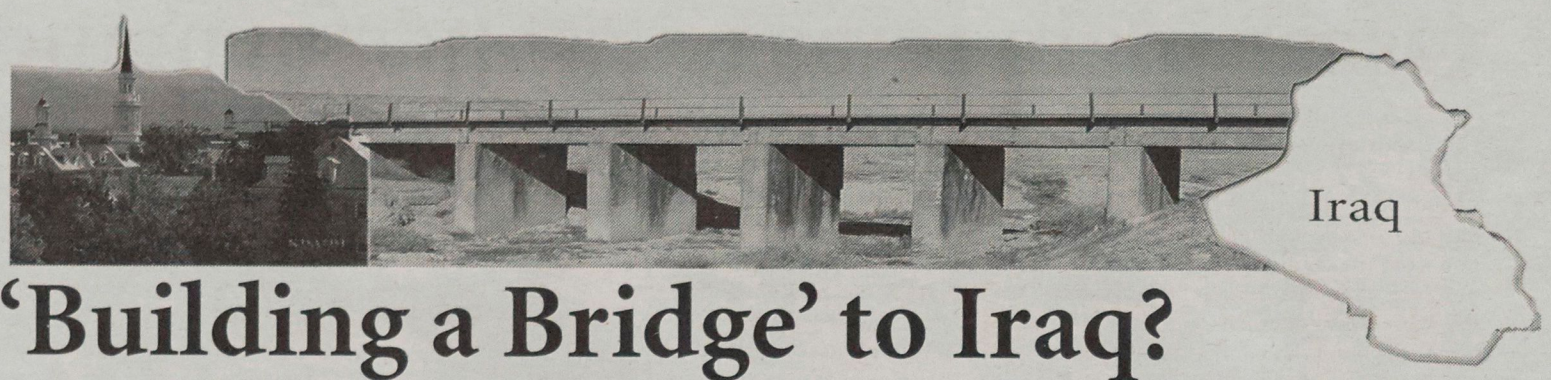
They can create and keep playlists, listen to custom radio and discover new artists. We think the program is of high quality and encourage all students to take advantage of the opportunity to use Napster, whether or not they decide to pay to keep the tracks. Our process in both deciding to renew with Napster, and in deciding whether or not to subscribe to any service at all, was done with as much transparency as possible. We took into account every complaint and positive review we received through the SGA and Napster e-mail accounts, and put out a survey — and even offered respondents the chance to win an MP3 player that retailed for $300 just to try to get more responses — to try to gauge student opinion. To suggest that this is some underhanded ploy by the Student Government Association (SGA) or the school to inappropriately use the SAF for some ulterior motive, or that this is some scheme conceived by the RIAA to cut down on piracy is utterly ridiculous.

The decision to renew with Napster was made by me and a group of students. Administrators were there to help solely with issues that we were not familiar with, such as IT costs, etc. No other interest group or corporation has influenced us in any way.

And while we regret that not every student is eligible for the program, our iTunes vouchers were the only way we could conceive of to compensate Mac users. The only reason that Napster is not available to Mac users is because Apple refuses to make any of these services compatible on both PCs and Macs. If and when they decide to change their mind on this compatibility issue, ALL of these programs will offer the service to both Mac users and PC users.

In the future, I would urge writers to avoid speculating on facts that are completely untrue — such as that the RIAA paid us or tried to influence our deal with Napster in any way — and stick to the facts, such as the results from the survey we sent in that went missing from the article, as well as the data that Napster sends us each day showing that students are downloading and streaming over 5,000 songs per day that also would have been informative. As always, the SGA encourages students to email us at sga@middlebury.edu with any complaints they may have about any SGA program or initiative, or to email napster@middlebury.edu with any questions or concerns they have with Napster.

ANDREW JACOBI '05
AN ECONOMICS AND HISTORY MAJOR
FROM PACIFIC PALISADES, CALIF.



'Building a Bridge' to Iraq?

I found the article "Midd needs Iraqi Representation," printed in the Jan. 27 issue of *The Middlebury Campus*, to be extremely thought-provoking. To foster Iraqi representation on campus, Leslie Thompson '05 and David Belanich '05 proposed the establishment of an endowed scholarship for Iraqi students to attend Middlebury.

Their idea struck me as an innovative way to promote peaceful dialogues and friendships between Americans and Iraqis — however, I had some concerns about the motivation for the scholarship and its implementation.

First, the article seemed to imply that part of the purpose of the scholarship is to teach Americans about the true nature of the Iraqi situation through exposure to one individual. Clearly, one person's perspective does not represent the sentiments of a nation, and it is unfair to treat a fellow student and friend as a poster-child for Iraqi politics.

Second, the article suggested that the recipient of the scholarship would be held to a stringent contract. During his or her time in Middlebury, the Iraqi student would offer discussions and lectures. After four years, the graduate would be required to return to Iraq, where he or she would be expected to speak publicly about experiences in the United States. I understand that such contracts are not uncommon for fellowships that last one or two years. A four year college education, however, may be more likely to significantly alter one's values and goals. Even if the recipient of the scholarship initially expressed an interest in returning to Iraq upon graduation, we need to be sensitive to the possibility that this desire might change. To my knowledge, most Middlebury College students are not held to such contracts. Is it right to welcome a student and then subject them to a different standard? Do the terms of the contract support or undermine the scholarship's intentions?

At the Feb. 15 meeting, Thompson and Belanich were genuinely receptive to the questions and concerns of those who attended. As they want the scholarship to reflect the Middlebury community, they seek widespread student and faculty input. As such, Thompson and Belanich were pleased that the meeting drew a diverse crowd, with underclassmen and upperclassmen from at least four different continents.

Thompson and Belanich also made clear that the purpose of the scholarship is to celebrate peace and diversity, not to gain an up-close perspective on a remote enemy. As the scholarship will facilitate discussions and friendships between Middlebury and Iraqi students, it will promote acceptance on both sides and help bridge the gap between two distant and often conflicting cultures.

At the meeting, Thompson and Belanch also began to address some of the complex issues regarding the implementation of the scholarship: What constitutes an appropriate contract? How will we deal with the logistics of recruiting an Iraqi who is financially underprivileged, did not attend an international preparatory academy for high school and is nonetheless interested in and prepared for study at Middlebury? How will we help to minimize discomfort or exclusion — the emotions the student could feel if they are excessively put on display? How will we ensure that the student feels comfortable and welcomed at Middlebury? These, among others, are all concerns that Thompson and Belanich look forward to grappling with in the immediate future.

Since the meeting, Thompson and Belanich have taken steps to establish an official student organization called "Building a Bridge" to Iraq. The primary activities of the organization will be to plan events related to the scholars' responsibilities and manage the scholarship funds. In addition, "Building a Bridge" will create forums for discussions of current events related to the Middle East. "Building a Bridge" encourages participation from anyone interested — including staff, community members, students and faculty.

Thompson and Belanich have ambitious goals for the remainder of this semester and beyond. By May, they plan to have raised enough money for one scholarship. Over the next few years, they hope that an endowment will develop and that other colleges will follow Middlebury's lead and encourage Iraqi enrollment. As both Thompson and Belanich are seniors, they hope that underclassmen who aid them in founding Building a Bridge this spring will continue to develop the organization in the years to come.

As Thompson and Belanich want "Building a Bridge" to represent the Middlebury community, they are interested in your questions and suggestions. They can be reached at lthompso@middlebury.edu and dbelanic@middlebury.edu. The date and time of next week's meeting will be posted in dining halls and on-line editions of Midd This Week.

EMILY BERG '05
A MATHEMATICS MAJOR
FROM WHITEFISH BAY, WIS.

Discrimination is not where it appears

This is not an attempt to defend or justify what many have recently referred to as the discriminatory hiring practices of America's Armed Forces. All forms of discrimination are wrong, whether they be directed towards homosexuals or military personnel.

Despite the careful cultivation of a long history of tolerance and diversity, Middlebury College's track record in regards to America's military since the Vietnam era has been questionable at best. One need not look farther than popular histories such as David Stameshkin's *The Strength of the Hills* to find evidence of this disturbing phenomenon. An examination of Middlebury's relationship with America's military is essential in understanding the current ill-will exhibited by some members of this community.

In 1969, our faculty voted that "none of the ROTC staff would have full faculty status or voting rights." This was blatantly discriminatory. One year later, the building that housed the ROTC offices on this campus was burned to the ground by an arsonist. To this day, Old Chapel's official stance is that the culprit acted alone and was not motivated by intolerance for the military. This explanation is highly improbable and dangerously oversimplified. Acts of violence and intolerance towards the US military and its sympathizers continued at Middlebury throughout the 1970s. Not only were students taunted and spat upon, ROTC classrooms became the targets of vandals and demonstrators. There are striking similarities between this type of intolerance and that displayed towards Middlebury's gay community with incidents like the repeated vandalism of MIddlebury Open Queer Alliance's (moqa) symbolic closet.

Not long ago, a visit by a military recruiter prompted a large majority of our faculty to propose a resolution preventing employers who cannot adhere to Middlebury College's anti-discrimination policy from recruiting here, regardless of whether the practices in question are considered legal according to federal law. The recent faculty vote is identical to one that occurred here in the late 1980s when Middlebury's faculty ended recruiting visits by the CIA because it was rumored they did not hire gay applicants. The fact that one of the world's most prestigious language institutes prevented the CIA from recruiting its graduates is without a doubt illogical. It is, in fact, no less ridiculous than the U.S. military's history of discharging openly gay language translators, a practice that has been criticized by those on this campus opposing the periodic, college-sanctioned presence of military recruiters.

If Middlebury continues to discriminate ... we will have shirked our responsibilities as defenders of career choice and advocates of the liberal education we so cherish.

While certain components of the federal government, namely Congress, continue to sponsor selective and indeed unfair hiring practices, Middlebury College and a number of similar institutions of higher learning have maintained discriminatory policies closely resembling this system. Evidence can be found in a recent landmark ruling by a federal appeals court. For the first time, it was deemed unconstitutional for the federal government to withhold funding from colleges and universities that do not welcome military recruiters.

The judges supporting this ruling felt that private institutions of higher learning reserve the right to discriminate against our military. They based their opinions on the U.S. Supreme Court decision currently allowing the Boy Scouts, also a private entity, to discriminate against homosexuals. While few at Middlebury have jumped to defend the military's right to recruit here, most would agree that exclusion of gays by the Boy Scouts is blameworthy. One cannot accuse the U.S. government of sponsoring unfair hiring practices without first acknowledging the discriminatory practices espoused by Middlebury College and some of its educational equivalents.

Soon Old Chapel will make a formal resolution regarding the fate of military recruiters on this campus. If Middlebury College continues to discriminate against the US military, we as intellectuals will have shirked our responsibilities as defenders of career choice and advocates of the liberal education we so cherish. Students deserve the chance to be educated about the career opportunities offered by our military without being relegated to secretive meetings in the Grille or forced to drive two hours to visit military recruiters in Albany. The mere presence of military recruiters does not hinder the civil liberties of anyone on this campus. Their exclusion, however, goes against the idea that students should be encouraged to learn about different beliefs and ideologies while deciding for themselves which career paths and lifestyles are most desirable.

For decades, some members of the Middlebury community have ostracized the U.S. military. This discrimination, like discrimination towards gay Americans, must come to an end. Preventing military recruiters from coming to Middlebury College is not going to change "Don't ask, Don't tell," or promote policy changes within the U.S. military, it will only serve to ignore the underlying dilemma while burying it under additional intolerance and discrimination.

STEVE JASKIKOFF '05
A HISTORY MAJOR
FROM OVID, N.Y.

www.middleburycampus.
LOG ON FOR MORE MIDD'S DESCRIMINATION POLICY

"How can one not speak about war, poverty, and inequality, when people who suffer from these afflictions don't have a voice to speak."

--Isabel Allende

The Many Faces of Poverty:
Local, National, and Global Perspectives

A Symposium, March 5th-12th, 2005

ANNOUNCING
THE 12TH ANNUAL MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE
PUBLIC SERVICE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!

The Alliance for Civic Engagement is pleased to announce
Middlebury College's
12th annual Public Service Leadership Awards.

DO YOU KNOW A
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENT
YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE
FOR PUBLIC SERVICE?

Please call or fax the
Middlebury College Alliance for Civic Engagement
at tel: 443-5082 or fax: 443-2990
to request a nomination form.
Forms can also be downloaded from the Web at
http://www.middlebury.edu/offices/ace/service_awards/.

All currently enrolled Middlebury College
students are eligible for nomination.

NOMINATIONS ARE DUE
MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2004

Public service takes shape in many different ways.
These awards recognize Middlebury College students who, through their
involvement and leadership in public service,
have helped make a difference to
community members and/or organizations.

Two Brothers Delivers!

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN RESTAURANT BAR

lunch delivery
11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

late-night delivery
10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.

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- Pizzas
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- Sandwiches
- Salads
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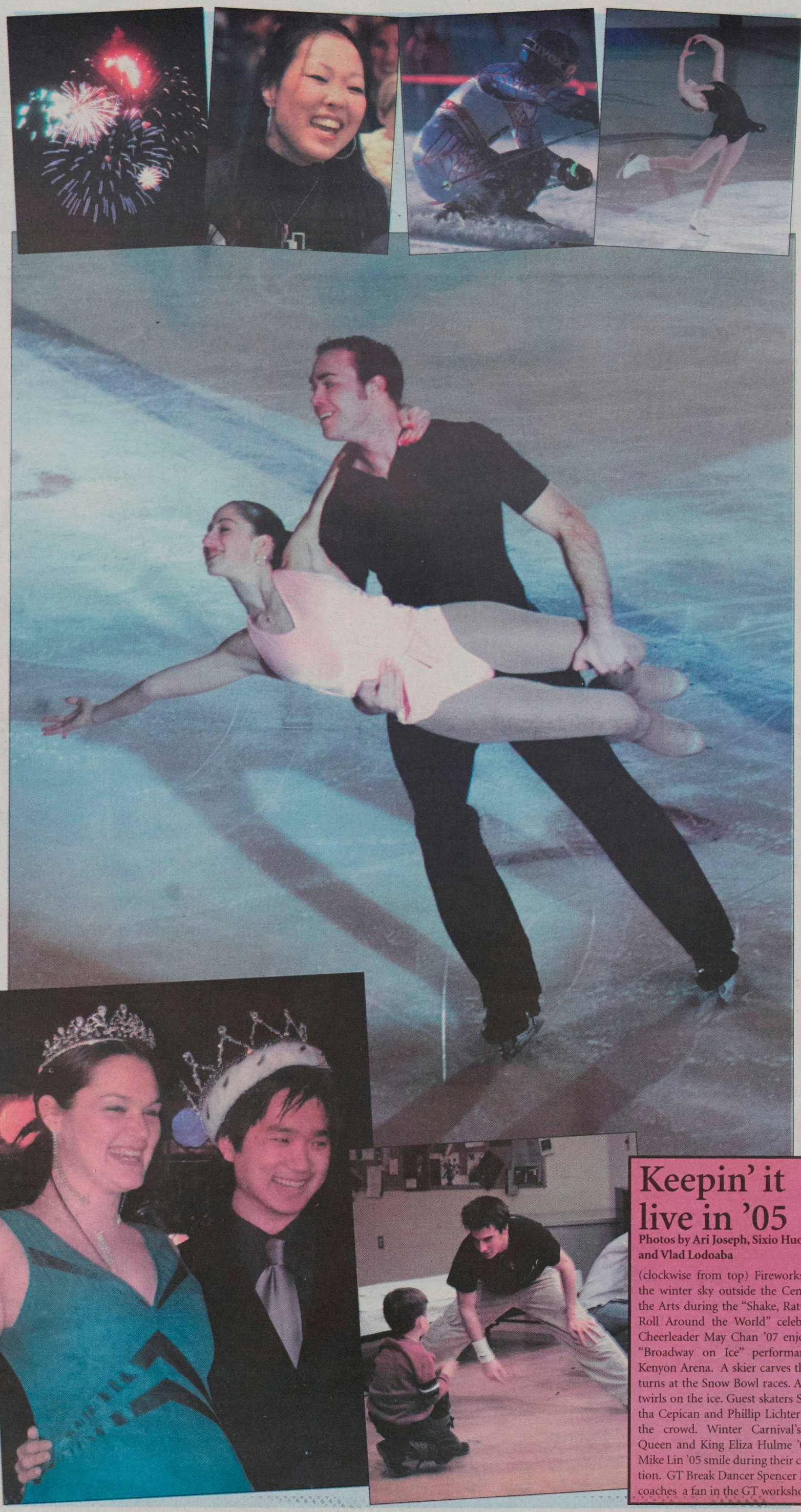

Keepin' it live in '05

Photos by Ari Joseph, Sixio Huo and Vlad Lodoaba

(clockwise from top) Fireworks paint the winter sky outside the Center for the Arts during the "Shake, Rattle and Roll Around the World" celebration. Cheerleader May Chan '07 enjoys the "Broadway on Ice" performance in Kenyon Arena. A skier carves through turns at the Snow Bowl races. A skater twirls on the ice. Guest skaters Samantha Cepican and Phillip Lichter dazzle the crowd. Winter Carnival's royal Queen and King Eliza Hulme '05 and Mike Lin '05 smile during their coronation. GT Break Dancer Spencer Paxson coaches a fan in the GT workshop.

Shake, Rattle and Roll

(clockwise from top) The GT/VT Breakers, a student break dancing troupe, perform in the Dance theatre. Families from the community join in events over the weekend. High Road, a Burlington-based Celtic band performs in the Concert Hall. Riddim, the student world dance troupe, performs with the GT/VT Breakers. Ryan Byerly clowns around on the ice. Another pair, wearing elaborate costumes, skates out a scene from a Broadway musical.

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AMERICA AND FRANCE ON THE WAY TO GOOD TERMS?

Orange Crush rolls back the years

Midd students show up to dance to favorite '80s cover band

By Matt Kunzweiler
Staff Writer

The '80s cover band Orange Crush took to the stage of the McCullough Social Space last Thursday night, inviting hordes of retro-clad students to crowd onto the humid, confused and notorious dance floor. The scene was a claustrophobic's nightmare but the ideal situation for anyone with a flare for '80s pop hits and that unmistakable McCullough atmosphere. With an unexpected push from someone in the crowd, you might suddenly find yourself dancing with a random nearby student who, chances are, will not really mind.

At Middlebury College, Orange Crush is in its element. By delivering sing-along-worthy hits from the decade Midd students have fetishized — and delivering these hits with rapid-fire pace — it is no wonder that "students who keep saying they'll stay for 'one more song' almost always end up staying until the show is over," as Tim Bellis '06 said. He continued, "They really know how to play to the crowd."

Orange Crush is in tune with what the Middlebury students want to hear, and frontman Scott Lawson makes this apparent by creating a sense of presence and responsiveness unrivaled by most campus bands. Many students feel as though he is representing the audience and he does this with an air of affability. At the beginning of every song, you can hear the audience cheering as they recognize the intro to a favorite hit.

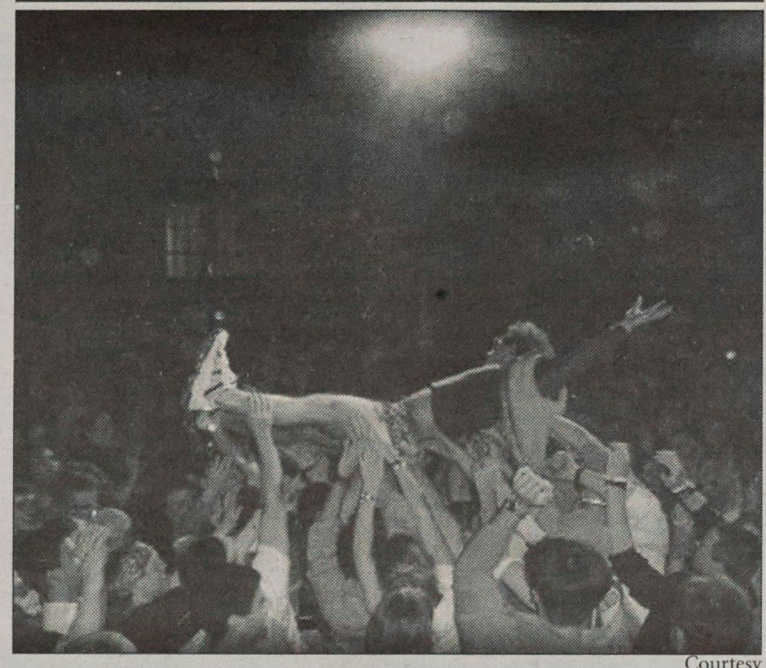
The musicianship is solid, but this can be lost on the masses, who, drunken, giddy and festive, are more excited about the atmosphere than the band's technical skill. And many students come for this atmosphere more than anything else. The music is easy to dance to. The audience is filled with a variety of students — those who come to dance, those who come to see the show, those who came for a combination of the above reasons and those who have no idea how or why they got there.

It is obvious that Middlebury students have an obsession with '80s music, and because Orange Crush made its appearance on the first night of the three-day Winter Carnival weekend, the vibe was overwhelmingly energetic. People came to have fun and most succeeded — there was so much exuberance in the crowd that if the band, after playing "Tainted Love," told the students to riot, they would have smilingly obliged.

The popular band has consistently packed its Middlebury venues — which included Ross dining hall and McCullough — with their semesterly appearances. But there are students whose interest has waned due to the College's incessant booking of the band. Suzanne Manugian '06.5 admitted, after claiming to have been "Orange Crushed-out," "I showed up to the concert as a joke." And many others who exhibited similar symptoms of being "Crushed-out" decided to avoid the predictable chaos of the Thursday show.

But that predictable chaos is also responsible for attracting so many students to the high-energy shows. The atmosphere is guaranteed. And many embrace it with open arms, sideways pony tails and track suits.

"Orange Crush always saves their best anthems until the end," said Bellis, so when most students leave at the end of the show, they're still hungry for more — and for another excuse to bust out the neon.



Courtesy

Midd-kids danced up a storm to the tunes of '80s cover band Orange Crush last Thursday in McCullough Social Space. Many got in the spirit and arrived in full '80s costume to celebrate the first night of Winter Carnival. Tunes like "Come on Eileen," "I Don't Wanna Lose Your Love" and "Shook Me All Night Long" could be heard throughout McCullough.

Arnaud Bekenkamp

Middlebury students crushed towards the stage in McCullough Social Space to get up close and personal with Orange Crush lead singer Scott Lawson. This was the second time that the band has performed to a packed crowd of '80's enthusiasts at Middlebury this school year.

Midd examines "The Many Faces of Poverty"

By Addason McCaslin
Staff Writer

For many demographic groups, the idea of poverty is a concept as foreign as the people soliciting aid on television. However, poverty is a pandemic problem that affects people in nearly every corner of the world, including the United States and even Addison County.

Acknowledging the existence of a problem like poverty is the first step toward fixing it, and some individuals at Middlebury College recognize this fact. From March 5-12, Middlebury College will proudly host a poverty symposium on campus with events and activities aimed at addressing the problems of poverty both in Addison County and the world at large.

The symposium, entitled, "The Many Faces of Poverty," will feature documentary films, a refugee camp simulation, a hunger banquet, artistic performances, panel discussions and guest speakers including a Bosnian refugee and representatives from local nonprofit organizations.

According to a UN Human Development Report emitted by Michael Conachy, over a billion people world-wide live on little over $1.00 a day. Even more people do not have enough money to afford basic nutrition and sanitation. Many Americans are aware of these facts but are too apathetic to act. Advertisements on television for charitable organizations allow individuals to send money to people in need all across the world, but the problem of poverty nevertheless persists. It requires greater attention.

Many of the symposium's events creatively address the wide variation in the types of poverty that exist. The refugee camp simulation exemplifies this creativity. According to Kelly Dennis '07, one of the event's organizers, "The goal of this simulation is to expose participants to the lives and plight of refugees as they are the ultimate victims of poverty." Upon arrival, attendants will be provided an identity and a "symbolic plot of land" before being allowed to enter and view posters, live action and a film all devoted to the plight of the refugee.

Perhaps one of the most powerful events of the symposium will be the inaugural discussion, "Local Voices of Poverty: Representatives of Addison County." This will be a chance for Middlebury students to find out a little more about what life is like for some of the people who live within sight of campus. For them, the luxuries afforded to Middlebury College students may seem worlds away and utterly unattainable. This discussion will offer a chance for neighbors living lives a world apart to mingle and learn from one another.

All events at the symposium are free, but donations are greatly appreciated. The Hunger Banquet, intended to characterize global distribution of food by providing diners with varying meal portions, will also give diners the chance to donate money to support Heifer International — a nonprofit organization working to end world hunger.

Olivia Kenna '07, one of the symposium's student organizers, said, "The hope of the students who planned the symposium is that it gives Middlebury students and our greater community a framework for understanding issues of poverty."

"The hope is that the symposium will give Middlebury students a framework for understanding issues of poverty."

— Olivia Kenna '07

As a prelude to the events on campus, Vermont Congressman Bernie Sanders will deliver an address entitled, "Working Toward a World Without Poverty," on March 4 at the American Legion Post 27 at 10 Boardman St. in Middlebury. Students are encouraged to attend.

It's Ski time!

Ashley Fitzgerald

Taking time to watch their classmates compete, skiers became spectators during the Winter Carnival Ski Races. Middlebury's Snow Bowl was packed with competitors, fans and leisure skiers during over the weekend.

MiddTV network joins a regular broadcast schedule

By Maddie Oatman
Staff Writer

Dozens of excited viewers gathered in the Grille on Wednesday, Feb. 23 to catch the premiere of Middlebury's newest form of mass communication — MiddTV. Those who attended the event munched on pizza sticks, sipped lemonade and even gossiped about "getting buff for the big premiere." The first production of MiddTV included a segment on sub-free living space at the College (or the lack thereof), what it is like to be a Feb, the opening of the new Atwater Dining Hall and the popularity of intramural sports. With packed attendance, an enthusiastic crew and a wide spectrum of topics, most audience members agreed that the showing was a success.

"I think the premier went very well," said Evan Harris '07, executive producer and founder of MiddTV. "There was a very good turnout and I heard lots of positive feedback. It was a fun event and a great way to get people to know about MiddTV. I even heard people talking about it the next day!"

Harris worked as executive producer and anchorman at his high school's TV news program. He felt that Middlebury was missing this type of program, and so the idea for MiddTV was born. The initial startup of the club was not too difficult, but the club faced some challenges when attempting to acquire equipment. The College agreed to lend the students one camera system for the year and the Finance Committee recently allocated them enough money to purchase another.

"My favorite part about working with MiddTV is the chance it gives me to take a more active role in the community," explained Harris. "It's easy to take the events we see for granted, but when you have time to process them you start to want to give back to the community more."

One of Harris's goals was to make the show available not only to students but to faculty, community members and anyone else who has a connection to Middlebury. Those off-campus can view the show on Channel 16 or at http://community.middlebury.edu/~middtv.

"MiddTV is a good way to share things about campus that people don't already know," said Chris Angelini '08.5. "I thought it was professionally done and taken very seriously. The piece on Febs was very accurate. It showed what being a Feb is really about, that we aren't weird!"

Jake Cohen '08 was also impressed by this introductory show and saw much potential in the budding production."I thought the first episode was well-produced," said Cohen. "Of course, there is possible room for improvement, but that's what excites me about getting involved in the future."

John Montesanti '07, who produced the segment on intramurals, became involved with MiddTV for its opportunities in writing, producing and directing. Montesanti had no prior experience with television production before he signed on to MiddTV, yet he was given the chance to produce an entire segment, complete with various interviews, live-action shots and footage from popular athletic locations around campus such as the weight-room, the climbing wall and the ice rink.

With many established print media organizations at Middlebury College, some may question the need for a visual media source. Few students receive reception in their rooms, and with such busy schedules, some may not find time to trek down to a common room to watch MiddTV.

"I think each news media can communicate stories differently," said Harris. "The newspaper might be good for some stories, and TV could be better for others. I think it's great for Middlebury to have another news source and another voice for the community."

"It gives us an opportunity to use visual images more fully," Montesanti said.

As for future episodes, Harris has his own personal goals."I'd like to make the stories a little more relevant to the Middlebury community. The first episode was very College oriented and I think we can expand that. We also have room to grow technically and graphically," he said.

"I'd love to see more excitement in the way people report," noted Cohen. "Vocal expression adds a lot. I thought the Atwater segment was funny because the humor compensated for the not incredibly expressive voices of the reporters."

Harris said that they plan on airing a new episode every four weeks, and reruns can be viewed every Thursday night at 9 p.m. on Channel 16.

BY MATT KUNZWEILER

Living in the resort town of Whistler, British Columbia — a snap-together wonderland designed for the explicit purpose of making American tourists spend their newly acquired, multi-colored, wildlife-adorned Canadian currency — one's morals can get a little mangled and bizarre pleasures can be found in unexpected places.

For many, compulsive lying has become a popular past-time. And tourists are the perfect target — you will probably never see them again and you probably harbor some sort of animosity towards them since they are intruders in your community. (Okay, this is a flawed viewpoint, as tourist dollars prevent the local economy from collapsing, but, regardless, we're allowed to irrationally dislike them…we're all emotional people).

Popular fictions told to tourists include: "The metric system is a myth," "You can't get sunburned if there's snow on the ground, it's simply too cold" and "Go ahead, pet the bears." One would think that I'd have a special sensitivity to lying to American tourists since I grew up in the United States. Oddly enough, this isn't the case. One morning I found myself on a chairlift with a family from Texas, the state where I was born and raised. When I lived there, some of my childhood friends convinced me of the existence of jackalopes — rabbits with massive antlers, a sort of Texan unicorn. I never managed to recover from the shame of being so severely duped. But here on the chairlift was my opportunity to avenge this disgrace upon the entire Texan people!

After some small talk, the father, sitting next to me on the chairlift, commented on a large sticker I had affixed to one of my skis. The sticker, shaped like a sports pennant, read: "Go Satan!" The man looked at me dismayed, "Is that a joke?"

"Oh, that? No, I put that on my skis as a polite gesture. For a friend."

"Um. I…"

"Many of my friends are Satanists," I explained. "It's a very popular religion in Canada — the fourth most popular. Actually, it might even be the third. I should look this up. Anyway, all the Satanists I know are good people. Strong morals. Strong sense of family. True, Satan got a pretty bad rap in the Bible. Satanists are trying to restore the reputation he deserves. And the Temple of Satan has done a lot of reforming over the past decade. They've entirely done away with the cannibalism. They're pro-charity and anti-war. My friend is trying to convert me, so I told him I'd put this sticker on my skis and think about it. To be honest with you, he might have found a believer in me. Good people, Satanists."

They bought my story, and the jackalope ordeal had been settled after seven years of frustration. We unloaded at the top of the lift before I had to invent any more theology. I wished the family an enjoyable vacation, but as the father stood up on his snowboard, he lost balance and, in desperation, grabbed my jacket and tackled me to the snow before I could get away. He was a large man, and the Texans had humiliated me again.

French-American diplomacy — still too early to call them French fries

By Caroline Vial
Features Editor

After the visit of U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to France in February, which was followed by President George W. Bush's self-described working dinner with French President Jacques Chirac on Feb. 21 and the liberation of the last French prisoners detained in Guantanamo Bay, Paris and Washington appear to have reached a more positive climate in a relationship with a seemingly ceaseless "piquant." Yet, *The Courrier International*, a reputable European newspaper, claims that from the perspective of Poland — a European and Atlanticist country — the recently appeased diplomatic status between France and the United States remains but a show.

"Condi" — as the chief of French diplomacy Michel Barnier amicably refers to the U.S. Secretary of State — chose Paris to hold the conference on America's new world politics. In her exposition, Rice, unlike Bush, spoke of the European Union (E.U.) as an indispensable partner to the United States in its establishment of a new world order. She also spoke of her historic affiliation with France, yet "did not discuss any concrete points," revealed the *Courrier International.*

On Feb. 21, Bush and Chirac discussed the shared priorities between the two nations — from securing Afghanistan and Haiti to responding to December's devastating tsunami in Asia and fighting terrorism.

"Despite the public display of bonhomie, tensions remain," wrote British journalist Adam Entous. According to Entous, the two nations find many issues over which to disagree "from how to deal with Iran's nuclear programme to whether the E.U. should serve as a counter-balance to U.S. dominance."

The diplomatic effort to ease the ongoing discordance between French and American views on the war in Iraq seemed apparent — in response to whether relations were now good enough for Bush to invite Chirac to his ranch in Crawford, Texas — an honor which Bush bestows on his closest allies — Bush said, "I'm looking for a good cowboy."

From the Polish perspective, Franco-American relations have improved in that France no longer criticizes the American and Polish presence in Iraq. France is not ready, however, to send their own soldiers. "France is still not in agreement with a uni-polar vision of the world," claimed Polish journalist Grzegorz Dobiecki.

"There are several signs of calming down," observed the *International Herald Tribune*, which stated that last year, certain members of the House of Representatives accepted an offer to join senators as part of a group dedicated to bettering the communication between Paris and Washington.

One undeniable subject of agreement between France and America seems directly related to food. One enthusiastic Francophile revealed to the *International Herald Tribune*, "As soon as it has to do with food, Americans always adore France. We feasted on truffles, pâtés and champagne during the holidays. And the foie gras [a delicacy of fattened duck liver] defied the elevated state of the Euro and the obstacles to importation."

Washington, D.C. opened the festival "Paris on the Potomac" in February, celebrating France's influence on the creation of the nation's capital. The festival included "gastronomy, art and music and a presentation of Pierre L'Enfant, the architect who designed D.C.'s city plans," reported *The Independent.*

The British publication denounces the rapid change in sentiments as a surprising yet positive turn of events. "In the summer of 2003, the French embassy felt so attacked that the embassador Jean-David Levitte wrote a letter to complain about the campaign of misinformation which came from certain elements of the White House. Today, the embassy sponsors French jazz and cabaret shows all over the city and at the French Film Festival," *The Independent* noted.

As the *Orlando Sentinel* affirmed, "French fries are back — at least as long as the 'diplomatic honeymoon' continues."

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT	WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT
Everyone needs a big stick.	I love it when you call me big P.O.T.U.S.
PRE-VIETNAM LBJ	POST-VIETNAM LBJ
"Who's not a member of the Great Society?"	Everybody hurts... sometimes.
RONALD D. LIEBOWITZ	LAWRENCE H. SUMMERS
Very impressive so far. Don't we all wish his middle name was Donald?	Who knew girls could add?

World Briefs

From XXXXXXL to XXXXXXS

The Taiwanese tailoring business has expanded itself to unusual anatomical regions. The Internet company Sakunet is offering condoms in 55 different sizes. Web surfers can simply download a ruled chart from http://www.sakunet.com.tw/html/index.asp, which serves as a measuring device. And to forego any form of embarrassment, the different sizes are not indicated in centimeters but in the form of a code... Who knew?

— *The Age*, Melbourne

Shoes with a Bootylicious Boost

Springboost, a Swiss startup company, has created the first athletic shoe featuring "dorsiflection" — a style where the front of the foot is slightly elevated from the heel. Thanks to an interchangeable insole, the user can regulate themselves the angle of dorsiflection. The zero degree angle corresponds to walking bare-footed, while at the maximum degree of 4 percent, the shoe allows one to workout their legs and buttocks, as the elevation of the front part of the foot leads to a stretching of the muscle tissue. The new athletic shoes can help improve one's performances in jumps and cardio-running up to 15 percent.

— *Le Temps*, Geneva

The Precious Laddy

A 3-year-old English boy has recently joined Mensa, the international association for the intellectually gifted whose members possess an IQ statistically superior to that of 98 percent of the population. The boy, Mikhail Ali, took a series of aptitude tests relevant to mathematical and spatial intelligence and logic. The result? An IQ of 137. Mikhail has been reading and writing from the age of two. He can also read the Arabic alphabet and can add and substract four-digit numbers. His parents, on the other hand, are having difficulties finding him a school. Mikhail is not "emotionally ready," claims his current instructor.

— *Yorkshire Post*, Leeds

PANTHER TOP 10

What music makes the Middlebury Charts? Here are the weekly top Napster downloads on campus.

1. Jack Johnson — Flake
2. 50 Cent — Candy Shop
3. Mario — Let Me Love You
4. The Game — Hate it or Love it
5. Kelly Clarkson — Since U Been Gone
6. The Shins — New Slang
7. Elliot Smith — Angeles
8. O-Zone — Mao Ai Hee
9. Green Day — Boulevard of Broken Dreams
10. Jennifer Lopez — Get Right

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tempeh chicken salad carrot raisin salad

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arts

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THEATRE TALK
A CONVERSATION WITH A MIDD STAGE ACTRESS

20
CREATIVITY FINDS NEW HOME
NEW CLUB UNITES MIDD MUSICIANS

Hangar 18 resounds as Higher Ground reaches higher level

By Hans Manzke
Staff Writer

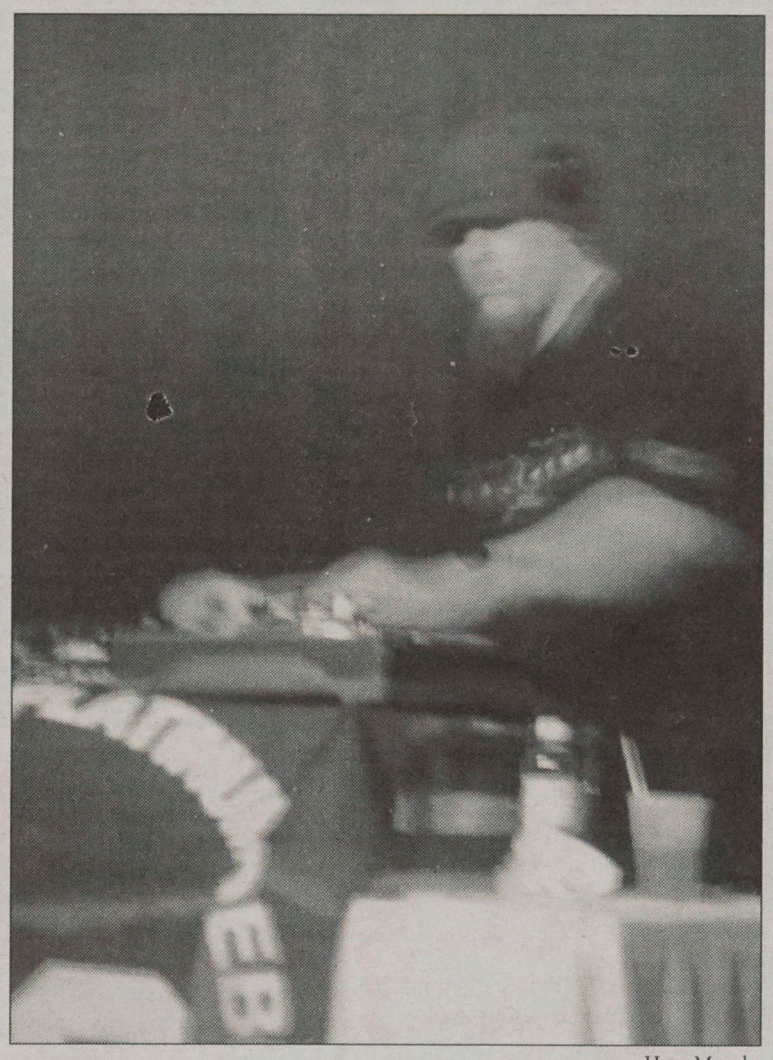
I really like underground hip-hop. Let it be known far and wide. This is due largely to one of the top three underground labels — Definitive Jux. This indie label provides a constantly growing and evolving forum for a staggeringly wide array of hip-hop, from Cannibal Ox's real-world painting with a dark, dirty brush, to Cage's enervating battle raps, to Mr. Lif's incisive, political and laconic observations on everyday American life. As one of the freshest new acts to sign to Def Jux, Hangar 18 represents a new breed of the underground, one that strikes a compromise between the bump and flow of the over-inflated, idiotically corporate rap mainstream, and the sometimes inaccessible, obfuscated hip-hop underground. When I saw they were coming to the newly relocated and renovated Higher Ground, I called up my fellow hip-hop head Ari Joseph '05. Neither of us really knew what to expect, either of the venue or the talent we knew would be there, so we decided to do what everyone should in the case of the revamped venue: — go and see for yourself.

So it was with much merry tomfoolery that Ari and I sallied forth to South Burlington last Sunday night. We got there 30 minutes after the show was scheduled to start, and entered the stage to see four people watching One Be Low, aka One Man Army of underground luminaries Binary Star and another half dozen or so people hugging the bar. One Be Low theme-rapped his way through a short but mind-blowing set that needed to be heard to be fully appreciated. Throughout Lo's performance, one of the Hangar 18 emcees, WindnBreeze, manned the merch table himself — the most obvious sign that the recent Definitive Jux signees have not broken through yet. The upside to this was that we got to talk to the guy. For me, it was surreal to meet and converse with this voice you've heard blasting from speakers on a shiny, new LP released by the freshest hip-hop label around.

This sense was supported when WindnBreeze and fellow Hangar emcee Alaska took the stage to DJ Big Whiz's bottom-heavy, humid beats, welcoming a seemingly unsure crowd of ... drum roll ... 15 people. If there ever was an injustice in the world of live hip-hop, this was it. WindnBreeze and Alaska laid down a truly superlative set, even abandoning the stage for the dance floor, putting themselves inches from the crowd. The duo rapped themselves into oblivion with a cathartic, self-deprecating style that truly drew the listener into their world. Their subject matter was a mixture of the vicissitude and hilarity of everyday life and sharply honed, overt political commentary. In that arena, Hangar 18 bites into the current administration much like Eminem does in his recent work. But where Eminem beats the listener over the head with a dissenting sledgehammer, the Hangar emcees cut with a scalpel. They were precise and deliciously oblique in their observations: there were no massive choruses linking Bush to the Antichrist. With 50-foot long mic cords, the two galloped around the floor, working themselves and the crowd into a frenzy that was only relieved at the end of the show, when Alaska threw an apple through the air 50 feet into Windnbreeze's open mouth. Multitalented.

It's a bit of a different experience when the artists stand at eye level with you, when you slap palms with them as they walk by. I could not have been more into the show myself, but any lack on impartiality on my part was rectified by Ari's simple formulation after the show: "That was dope." Yes. Yes it was.

Higher Ground itself is a worthy venue for the talent it plans on bringing to South Burlington. Fellow Hangar 18 Def Jux labelmate Aesop Rock will be there in late March, while Jedi Mind Tricks and J Live make an appearance on April 7. The hip-hop bill is completed by Handsome Boy Modeling School, a collaboration of Del the Funky Homosapien and Gorillaz producer Dan the Automator and former De La Soul producer Prince Paul, who will take over the modest stage on April 15.

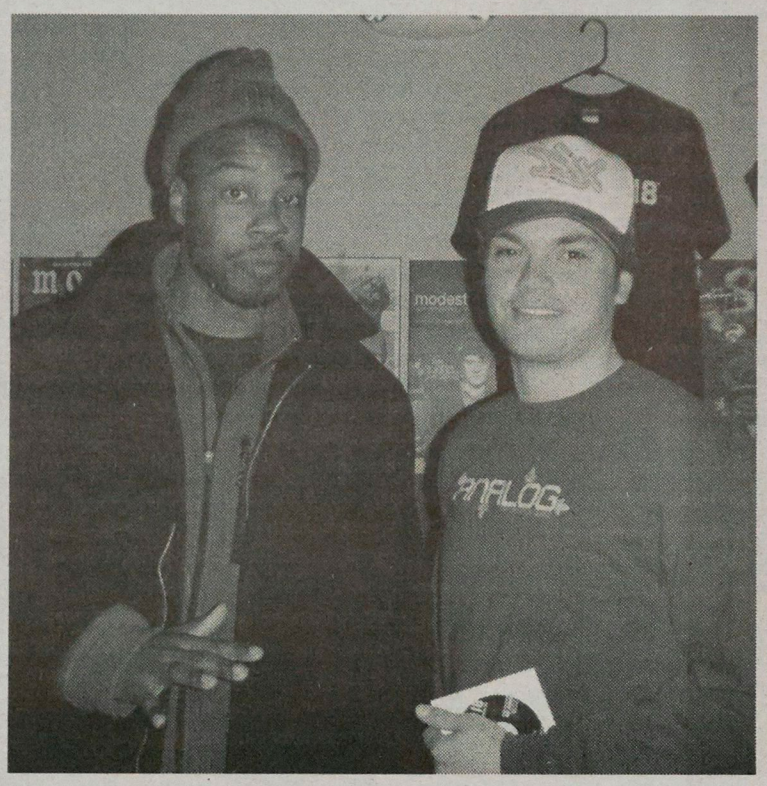


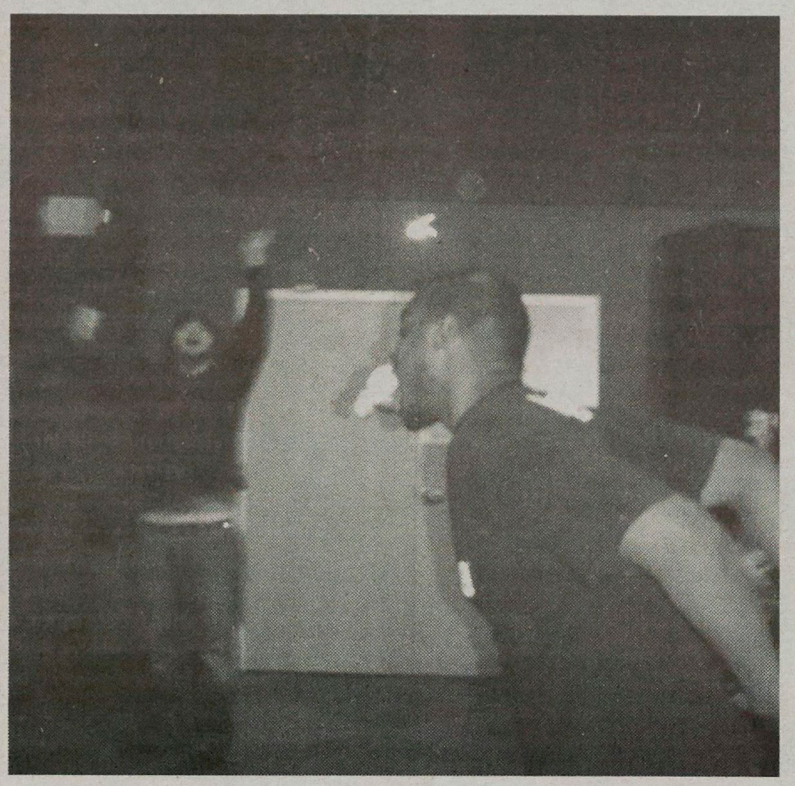
Hans Manzke

DJ Big Whiz drops beats for fellow musicians WindnBreeze and Hangar emcee Alaska while performing at the newly renovated Higher Ground. The venue recently changed location, moving to South Burlington.

Displaying its diversity, Higher Ground will also present recent Middlebury visitees Ratatat on March 3 and retro bliss-rockers Of Montreal on the same day as the Handsome Boy Modeling School extravaganza. On the way back from the Hangar 18 concert, Ari noted that Higher Ground was an "ambitious club." This is true for several reasons. First there's a truly eclectic and uncompromisingly non-mainstream talent lineup. There's absolutely nothing wrong with this except for the fact that Higher Ground is located in a town of 30-40 thousand, not three or four million. Drawing consistently sufficient crowds to their shows could prove challenging. The Hangar concert was a case in point. Granted, their move from Winooski to their current location allows the club to draw larger crowds because of the population concentration. However, the issue remains, and it will be interesting to see how it resolves itself in the future.

The large college community in Burlington and here in Middlebury as well should be loath to not lend support to such positive musical ambition. While it does not draw the big stadium names lots of lovers of the mainstream look for, we can now enjoy the caliber of artists you used to have to go to Boston or New York for, just 45 minutes from our back door.





Hans Manzke

LEFT: Staff writer Hans Manzke '05 poses with WindnBreeze after an exhilarating performance on Sunday night. RIGHT: WindnBreeze catches an apple in his mouth, tossed 50 ft. by his co-headliner Alaska. The tomfoolery stirred up the already rambunctious crowd, who cheered on the spirited duo.

Spotlight on: Lauren Kiel

The Middlebury Campus: How did you get your start in acting?

Lauren Kiel: I started to dance when I was two, and was such a big ham in dance classes because I was always trying to take over the classes, so my mom saw the actress in me. So she signed me up for a summer camp in second or third grade, and we did Cinderella. I was the "yellow bird," and I didn't have any lines … no wait I think I sang the lines "We'll make the dress so pretty"… that's it. Since the bird, I've been in some sort of production every summer, so there's rarely been a time when I'm not working on a show. I kinda like it that way.

The Campus: What performances have you been in at Middlebury?

Kiel: Last year in the First-Year Show, I was Princess Camilla and the Ugly Duckling and then I stage managed for one of the faculty shows called "Midwives," and I did "The Vagina Monologues" last year and this year. Now I'm in "Necessary Targets," which goes up in April, which is by the same woman that wrote "The Vagina Monologues."

The Campus: What has been your favorite role so far?

Kiel: My favorite role in general was Winifred in "Once Upon a Mattress" — there's a bit of a musical girl in this body … Right now, I'm just amazed at how much work is being put into this play, which I love. We're doing a lot of stuff outside of rehearsal, like going to lectures and watching documentaries. The play is about Bosnian women refugees and we've also been talking to Bosnian women, so it's been really cool.

Courtesey

Name: Lauren Turner Kiel '07
Hometown: Simsbury, Conn.
Major: Theatre
Favorite animal: Chimpanzee
Favorite dining hall: Proctor

The Campus: Where do you want to eventually take your acting?

Kiel: Hmm... Such a hard question, I don't know! I struggle with that question all the time because in reality, if I could make the dream life for myself, I would be an incredibly successful, intelligent actress and I would have a lot of money and consistent work and a nice place to live for my family… But that doesn't always happen.

The Campus: What is your favorite Broadway play?

Kiel: I have like nine million! But my favorite play is probably "Once Upon A Mattress." I saw it starring Sarah Jessica Parker and she's my idol. She's so successful — she's been on Broadway, and she's hugely successful in film and TV and she's married with a family… I basically want to be her.

The Campus: Besides Sarah Jessica Parker, are there any other actors that you really admire?

Kiel: She's the main one.

The Campus: Do you have any embarrassing moments during a performance?

Kiel: Ohmygod, yes. Let me think. My god there's a million. When I was Annie a while ago, I completely blanked on the words of a song, and I was singing along and I ended up singing … "She may be pouring his coffee, she may be pouring his tie…" which makes no sense, so that was a good one. Last year, in the First Year show, my skirt fell off during a show. That was really awkward. But that's the fun of live theatre, because in film you just go back and edit that out, but I got screwed. (laughs) You just go with it.

The Campus: What do you like to do in your free time?

Kiel: What free time? Um … I guess extracurricular-wise, I'm in a show. And Bobolinks, so I'm in that — it's one of the two coed acapella groups. Rehearsals for the play are every single day, so I don't have too much time for classes…

The Campus: If you don't end up acting as a career, what will you do?

Kiel: I don't know … I love teaching — it's kind of like performing except in front of a class. I'm taking psychology right now and I really like it, and I've been toying the idea of counseling.

The Campus: Does anyone in your family act?

Kiel: Zadie, my grandfather, was an entertainer. He played in a band. But no one in my family has done theatre.

The Campus: What is the hardest part of doing theatre?

Kiel: The hardest part of performing live theatre is that it's unpredictable — there's no turning back. But also, you have to get into the head of a completely different person with each show and figure out what they're doing and why they act the way they do. It's cool, which is probably why I like psychology so much. It's definitely a challenge.

The Campus: Favorite movie or TV show?

Kiel: "Sex and the City" is my favorite TV show, go figure.

The Campus: What's your favorite part of Middlebury? What annoys you about Middlebury?

Kiel: Tricky! I think it's cozy here, the small community feel is comforting, maybe at the same time that's the worst part of it … either that or it's freezing and you go outside and your nose hairs stand up. I mean, I don't mind the cold, but when it's nose-hair-freeze-cold, I wanna go home!

— By Lauren Smith and Jodie Zhang

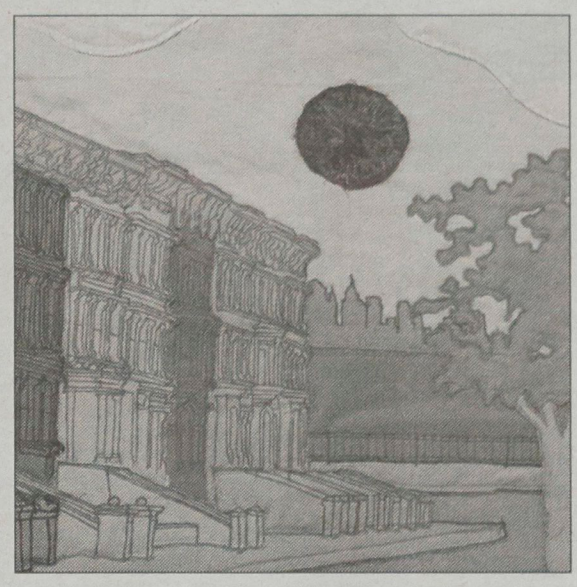
REINVENTING RUSSIAN CLASSICS

Ari Joseph

Performing together, the St. Petersberg duo — soprano Elena Antonenko and pianist Irina Feoktistova — showchased their talents on Tuesday night at the Center for the Arts, sponsored by the departments of Russian and Music.

BLOWIN' INDIE WIND

BY RICHARD LAWLESS



THE ARTIST | BRIGHT EYES
THE ALBUM | I'M WIDE AWAKE, IT'S MORNING
RELEASE DATE | JANUARY 25, 2005

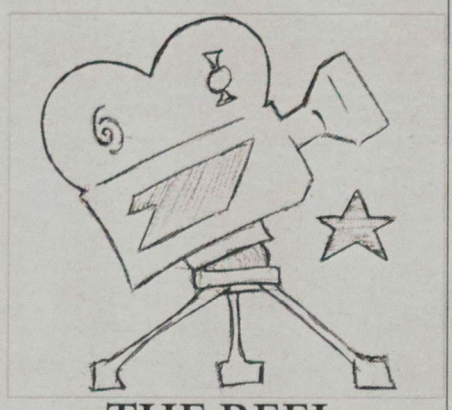
'I'M WIDE AWAKE..." WILL BE FEATURED ON WRMC'S "ALBUM OF THE WEEK" THIS SUNDAY AT 9 P.M.

Bright Eyes, a.k.a. Conor Oberst, is in the middle of a media hurricane as I write this. After a three-year hiatus, he released two albums this January — at the height of the slow album season — and newspapers everywhere are singing his praises, with rumblings of, at long last, the music industry discovering the "next Dylan," as his albums and single topped the Billboard charts. Blasphemy, you say? I couldn't agree with you more.

Naturally I can't hold Oberst responsible for all this speculation; he's just a musician playing the promotions circuit to the height of his advantage. But I can blame him for sucking. Of the two albums he released, most attention is being focused on the folksier of the two, "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning," and that's where I'm going to focus too. The second album, "Digital Ash In a Digital Urn," is a more experimental and electronic affair, and not nearly as much fun to dissect as "I'm Wide Awake," which I view as Oberst's obvious plead to be admitted to the singer/songwriter hall of fame. And while I know many, many people will disagree with me, I'm going to stick by my assertion that "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning" blows.

The album's first song, "At the Bottom of Everything," starts off pretentiously enough, with the sound of Oberst sipping water, or something, then launching into this overly-rehearsed monologue about a woman sitting on a plane. Master storyteller that he is, his speech seems so contrived that even the stumbling and the pauses sound deliberate, much like his unnecessarily awkward description of a magazine article being "arduous." While attempting to come off as a weary-eyed troubadour, Oberst instead comes off as a weird, creepy nervous guy who you feel might lash out at any minute. Following the monologue, Oberst launches into a little ditty with one of the most groan-inducing, predictable chord progressions you've ever heard. It's like that song you wrote when you were eight years old and immediately knew was lame. And he's using that very song right here to kick things off. Pure genius.

The biggest complaint about Oberst, regardless of how much or little you value his lyrics, is that he really can't write good songs. "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning" is perfect proof of this, as Oberst takes you through 10 of the most boring, forgettable melodies you've ever heard, unless you listen to Creed every day. His lyrics, while original, bear the shameful mark of immaturity, which I feel has less and less to do with his youthful age of 25, and more with Oberst just being immature. If we really must compare, at age 25 Dylan had already released "Highway 61 Revisited" *and* "Blonde On Blonde." Yeah. One of the few okay moments on the album are the pretty guitar twangs that open the album's second song, "We're Nowhere and It's Now." One of the most popular, and oft quoted (already) songs on the album, is the gentle "Lua," which is probably the least terrible song on the album. In "Lua," Oberst sings "I know that it is freezing / But I think we have to walk / I keep waving at taxis / They keep turning their lights off / But Julie knows a party at some actor's West Side loft." His lyrics are better than most, but unfortunately, when I say most, that includes every band ever, including the terrible death-metal band I played in back in high school, so that's not setting the bar too high. But even though the lyrics are manageable, the album is packaged in a trendy hipsterness that is endlessly irritating because it comes across as contrived — it's more focused on image and presentation than content. Conor Oberst is not a folk legend. He's a hipster from Omaha who wishes he was Dylan, but doesn't have the songwriting skills to back his dreams up. It's like he's slapping folk music in the face, and then giggling about it afterwards as he cashes his checks. But honestly, I can't blame Oberst if the media's willing to go along with it. Though people might throw rocks at me for saying so, "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning" is nothing more than the sound of an awkward hipster freaking out to really lame country ditties packaged to win over the collective heart of America. And unfortunately, he did.



THE REEL CRITIC

BY STEPHANIE DOSCH

MOVIE | MONSIEUR IBRAHIM
DIRECTOR | FRANÇOIS DUPEYRON
STARRING | OMAR SHARIF & PIERRE BOULANGER

Paris, 1960s. A black woman wearing a blond wig and a green dress with white polka-dots stands seductively on a street corner. A Jewish boy in his mid-teens watches her from a window above, practicing his lines, "Hello. It's a hot one. How much?" He finally gets up the nerve to talk to her, but she rejects him. He tries his luck elsewhere, and finally, on his 16th birthday, Moses becomes a man.

So begins François Dupeyron's "Monsieur Ibrahim," a touching movie about a Turkish grocer and the Jewish boy he befriends. Monsieur Ibrahim, played by Omar Sharif ("Doctor Zhivago"), runs the deli across the street from the apartment that Moses (Pierre Boulanger) shares with his father. Moses comes in every day to buy groceries for dinner, and Monsieur Ibrahim takes a liking to him, calling him Momo.

Momo, however, does not reciprocate. He often shoplifts cans of food, justifying by saying he doesn't care, Ibrahim is an Arab. As if reading Momo's thoughts, the old man says "I'm not an Arab, Momo. I'm from the Golden Crescent." When Momo asks why his father always tells him to go to the Arab's, Ibrahim answers "Arab means open from 8 a.m. till midnight, even on a Sunday, in the grocery trade."

But when Momo's father disappears abruptly, leaving Momo only a note and some cash, Ibrahim begins to grow on him. He is intrigued by the old man's enigmatic references about the Koran, taking Momo on walks, buying him new shoes. He even tells Momo that the boy owes him nothing for the cans he took.

Throughout their relationship, Ibrahim teaches Momo the ways of the world — the power of a smile, how to deal with women. Momo falls in love with the girl who lives downstairs, but still sells his father's books so he can visit the women of Blue Road. When the police report that Momo's father's body has been found, Ibrahim volunteers to adopt the boy as his own. He buys a car, learns how to drive it and the two set off across Europe to Turkey.

"Monsieur Ibrahim" isn't an amazing movie, but it has many appealing qualities. Omar Sharif is wonderful as the old grocer who loves his wife and "knows what's in his Koran," and newcomer Pierre Boulanger captures Momo. The movie is lovingly filmed, with warm lighting evoking the hot summer and beautiful shots of Turkey's rugged landscapes. Perhaps most notable is the soundtrack — the American rock-and-roll and its French counterpart *"le yeye,"* so popular with teenagers in the mid 1960s.

No, "Monsieur Ibrahim," like its characters, isn't amazing — it's just a nice story about the unique friendship between two characters of different generations and faiths.

"Monsieur Ibrahim" is this week's Hirschfield film, and is playing in Dana Auditorium at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. In French with English subtitles.

"Amplifying" Midd's music scene

New student organization encourages artistic diversity

By Lauren Budzyna
Staff Writer

By the end of last year, Conor Sheldon '06 and his band Larson had toured all over New England and played 17 shows, but they had practically ruined his friend's car by lugging heavy equipment all across the Northeast. By the same time last year, Sheldon had come across scores of musical Middlebury students who were looking for guitarists, drummers or vocalists for their bands, but who had no network of musicians from which to start. He had found substantial support for the idea of building a recording studio on campus, but there was no centralized group who could work together to make it a reality.

By the beginning of this year, Sheldon had written out a three-page constitution for the College's newest student organization: the Middlebury Musicians Guild (MMG).

"The MMG is an organization that aims to, and pardon the horrible pun, 'amplify' the music scene at Middlebury," said Sheldon of the club that became official at the end of last week. Before it had even become official, the club had tallied 35 members who ranged from every Middlebury class. While there are already over 20 musical groups on campus, the MMG will be one overarching organization that can bring them all together.

"Many members are additionally in campus organizations such as WRMC or MCAB, bands, a cappella groups or perhaps nothing else at all," said Sheldon. "But we all share at least one strong common bond: a passion for music."

The purpose of the MMG is to bring together musicians of every type under one umbrella group. "The MMG can be a sounding board for Middlebury's musicians," continued Sheldon. "It can be a place where musician's can find a band, it can be an arena in which one may choose to talk about issues in the world of music...the list goes on."

Anna Curtis '06, vice president of the MMG, stressed that the organization promotes unity among musicians, rather than competition. "There is no specific type of music that the guild focuses on," she pointed out, so members of the guild can come together "whether they are involved in classical music, folk, jazz, rock, heavy metal or a cappella."

Together, members could share access to resources such as College vans for off-campus gigs, performance space for shows, financial backing and a wide network of other musicians.

The creation of a recording studio at Middlebury is a central goal and source of inspiration for the MMG. As they represent a significant part of the student body, a large coalition of musicians has the potential to commit to making the studio a reality. One of the first objectives for the club is to complete a cost-analysis for this project.

"One branch of the guild is the 'Recording Club' that is composed of students interested in learning the 'ins-and-outs' of studio work," said Sheldon. "By amassing a group of interested students, we will soon have ably-trained, interested students who are proficient in the technical aspects of a recording studio and who could then run such equipment."

Sheldon also pointed out that the existence of a recording facility on campus would make Middlebury an even more attractive option for prospective students, benefiting the school itself as well as the student body.

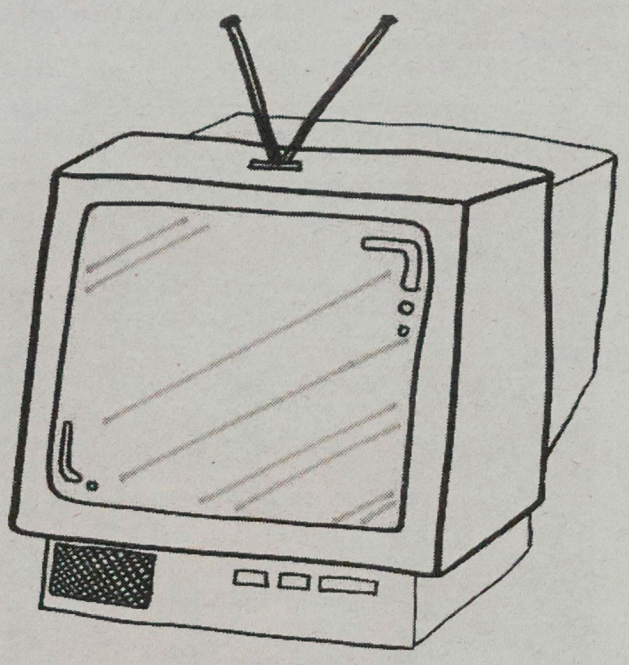
The guild meets at 6:30 p.m. in the Ross Fireplace Lounge every other Wednesday and plans to put together a Web site in the near future. Sheldon pictures a day when the MMG logo will be both campus-wide symbol that will back up the endeavors of all its members and an engine for the completion of a great new campus facility. In the meantime, however, MMG members can sit back in the College vans on the way to their next gig and enjoy the ride.

Cutural Beat

Sixiao Huo
Keeping it Live in '05, Jo Opot performed at a Winter Carnival Riddim appearance on Friday.

Watch This Space

— BY SHEILA SELES



The Oscars were pretty boring this year. They were pretty boring on all fronts. There were no real upsets in the awards. No one was dressed really terribly. Even Joan Rivers seemed on her best, albeit senile, behavior. Or maybe my Oscar malaise stems from the fact that I seem to be the only person on the planet who didn't love "Million Dollar Baby."

The pre-shows seem a logical place to start. Joan and Melissa Rivers were booted off the E! Network this season. They've found a new home on the TV Guide Channel. Star Jones-Renoylds and Kathy Griffin have taken over as E's new awards pre-show hosts. E's coverage is nothing without Joan Rivers. It's funny to laugh at Jones-Reynolds and her celebrity excesses (her wedding), but she doesn't have a funny bone in her body. Her red carpet interviews at the Oscars were dull and sycophantic. Joan Rivers, on the other hand, was a pioneering American comedienne who was smart, brassy and brave. I talk about Rivers in the past tense because the Rivers we see today on the red carpet is only a shadow of her former self. It seems as if all those face-lifts have pulled the irony out of her personality. Rivers still makes a great show of the red carpet, though. No one, not even Joan, knows what's going to come out of Joan's mouth. She makes celebrities nervous. It's fun to watch nervous celebrities navigate Rivers's interviews. I think the differences between Jones-Reynolds and Joan Rivers can be explained in the way they handled Beyonce Knowles. Jones-Reynolds gushed over Beyonce, comparing her to Diana Ross. Joan Rivers asked her when she was going to get married.

Chris Rock, as host, was the best and least-boring thing about the Oscars. Early in the show he joked about the Oscars being the "Def Oscar Jam" because of the number of black nominees. Rock made good on that promise. In one of the show's funniest segments, Rock went to a movie theatre with an all black clientele. He asked person after person if they'd seen any of the best picture nominees. No one had seen any of them. Rock then asked if they'd seen "White Chicks." All of the interviewees had seen "White Chicks," and they all thought it was a fine film. Chris Rock's racially charged humor translated well to the Oscar stage. He managed to keep his language clean without losing his edge. Sadly, Rock's talent wasn't enough to save a very boring broadcast.

I suppose it's not surprising that the Oscars were boring. They're always boring. They're always too long. It seemed that someone at the Academy was trying to make the award show less boring, but these changes were laughably ineffective. Some of the award presenters presented awards from the aisles or balconies instead of from the stage. All this really accomplished was to show empty seats on camera. That made me think of the brilliant "Seinfeld" where Kramer went on the Tony Awards as a seat filler. When someone got up to go to the bathroom, Kramer would sit in the vacated seat so that the house looked full on camera. Obviously, there were no seat fillers at the Oscars. I would like to suggest a small army of Kramer impersonators to fill the seats. Then in dull moments, Oscar watchers could look for the Kramers in the audience à la "Where's Waldo?" Sounds like a cure for the common awards show.

Bantams blitzed as Panthers cruise to semis

Albert Bitici

Emily Quizon '06 finds the back of the net again as the Middlebury women's hockey team rolled onto the semis.

By Tom McCann
Sports Editor

Following 7-1 and 8-1 victories against Trinity earlier in the season, one might have been forgiven for thinking that the Middlebury women's hockey team would just have to show up to claim a place in the NESCAC semifinals next weekend. As it were, the women took to the ice in their final home game of the season knowing that one poor performance and it could be curtains for their post-season aspirations. Determined not to let this happen, the Panthers set about dismantling their visitors, but not before almost falling behind in the opening minute.

A Panther team that has tended to start slowly in recent games gave up a breakaway before the first 45 seconds had elapsed, but Kate Kogut '05 was as alert as ever and stifled the attack.

It didn't take long for the women to get into their stride, and when they did, Trinity did not seem to have an answer. After a shade over six minutes, senior Lorna Gifis, playing in her last game at Kenyon Arena, got Middlebury on the board first, knocking the puck in after Shannon Tarrant '07 had forced a rebound with the initial shot. Just 64 seconds later the Bantam rearguard was punctured once more as Lacey Farrell '08 fired a shot into the top corner, and the scoring blitz continued when Allison Graddock '07 pounced on the puck while it was still in the air after a rebound to knock it past goaltender Courtney Burgh. In just over four minutes the Panthers had blown the game open, and even the most optimistic of Trinity fans might have concluded the game was beyond their reach.

Certainly by the time Emily Quizon '06 beat the goaltender with a one-timer on a powerplay with 1:56 to play in the third, Trinity must have been looking at damage control and as the players skated off at the end of an absorbing first period, there were few doubters in the crowd as to which way the game was going to go.

The second and third periods did not provide the heart-stopping drama playoff hockey can involve as the damage had already been done. Maggie MacDonald '08 scored the only goal of the second period after receiving a pass from Gloria Velez '06. The Panthers had their sixth different scorer of the day when Emily MacNamara '07 ripped a laser past Burgh with just over five minutes to play in the game.

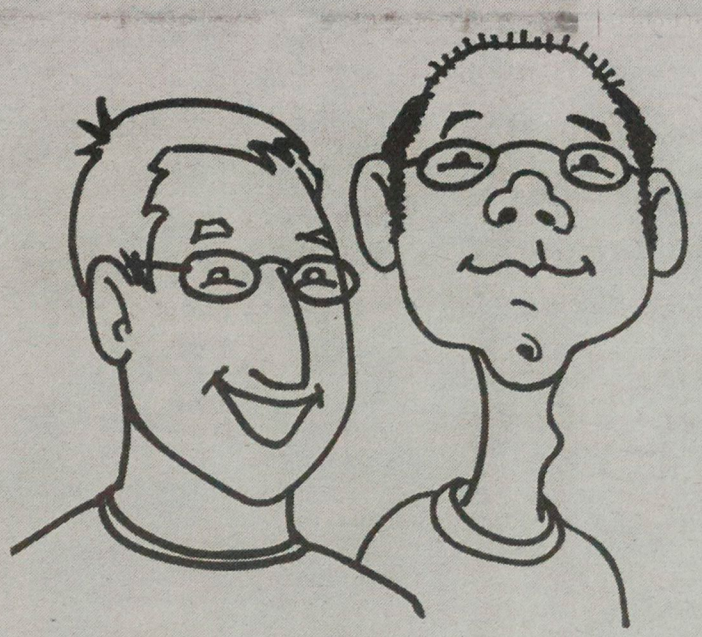
After being called upon to turn away a Trinity chance in the first minute, Kogut was required to make just eight more saves, notching her sixth shutout of the season's campaign. Captain Jackie Cohen '05 commented, "It was a good game to start the playoffs with. We played pretty well but could have moved the puck up the ice better. Overall I think we played well as a team though."

With the Trinity game dealt with, the Panthers now turn their attention to the NESCAC semifinals and final at Bowdoin this coming weekend. The Panthers first take on Williams, for the right to play for the Championship, a game that Cohen is not taking lightly. She noted, "We really have to treat it like it could be our last game because we tied last time we played them. They're a good team — much better than they have been in the past." Should the Panthers overcome the Ephs, a showdown with Bowdoin could be on the cards, assuming there are no shocks in the Bowdoin vs. Hamilton semifinal.

Cohen pointed out that Middlebury actually lost to Bowdoin in last year's NESCAC final before rallying to win the National Championship. Bowdoin may believe it's a better team than Middlebury because of last year's NESCAC result and the Pantherrs' loss to Bowdoin 5-2 at Kenyon a few weeks ago.

In preparation for the game, Cohen said, "We're going to be doing a lot of one-on-one and two-on-two battling in practice. We'll be working on getting in front of the net and getting our sticks on the puck. Our powerplay will need to be good too because Bowdoin tends to get a lot of penalties." Arriving as National Champions, the Panthers will be expected to bring back the NESCAC Championship they were denied last year, which could provide the platform for another run at the NCAA crown later in the month.

Neil & Otto's



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Pool stars grab NESCAC silver

By Zamir Ahmed
Sports Editor

After a three-week layoff from competition in which to rest and ready themselves for the end-of-the-year championship meets, the Middlebury men's swimming and diving team was anxious to get back in the water and put up a good performance. On Feb. 25 to 27 the Panthers did just that, posting a second-place finish at the NESCAC Championship, which was hosted at Wesleyan College. The team's strong showing also helped Head Coach Peter Solomon to be named NESCAC Men's Coach of the Year.

Williams College won the event for the third straight year, finishing with 1,862 points, followed by the Panthers with 1,351 points and Amherst College with 1,264 points. The Ephs put up the highest point total ever at a NESCAC Championship and their 510.5-point margin of victory was also a conference record.

The Panthers were led by three individual champions at the meet, including three-event winner Tim Lux '07, who swept all three breaststroke events. Lux won the 50yd in a school-record time of 26.52 seconds, finishing ahead of teammates Peter Bell '08 and Alex Demas '06, who finished second and third, respectively.

Lux also posted a victory in the 100yd breaststroke with another school-record of 57.66 seconds. Teammate Demas finished second in the same event in a time of 58.49 seconds. Lux's time in the 100yd was also good enough to surpass the NCAA "B" mark, qualifying him for the NCAA Championship. Lux also won the 200yd under the NCAA "B" mark.

Also posting individual wins were Robert Collier '07 and David Hawkins '05. Collier took first in the 100yd butterfly in a time of 50.28 seconds, setting a school record and NESCAC Championship meet record. Collier added a second in 200yd IM, meeting the NCAA "B" cut with a time 1:51.72 and a third in 200yd backstroke. Hawkins won the NESCAC title in the 50-meter butterfly in 22.75, good enough to set a new NESCAC Championship meet record.

The relay teams also earned valuable points for the Panthers. The 400yd medley team set a new school record with a time of 3:25.51 and a second place finish. The team was composed of Lux, Collier, Hawkins and Jason Korsmeyer '05. Lux, Hawkins and Korsmeyer also teamed up with John Rayburn '06.5 to take third in the 200yd medley relay while the 400yd freestyle relay team of Korsmeyer, Hawkins, Demas and Robbie Burton '08 finished third.

"It was a complete team effort," said Solomon. "The guys did a super job of coming together. It was the perfect meet for a perfect season. Everyone on the team scored for us. The guys all managed to get to the finals. That shows the depth of the team."

Collier, Korsmeyer, Lux and Hawkins will represent Middlebury at the NCAA Championships held March 17 to 19 at Hope College.

Column as I see 'em

BY JEFF PATTERSON

If Antoine Walker walked the 1,818 miles from Boston to Dallas and then moved East to Atlanta before returning home, he certainly would need a rest. However, since he had the luxury of flying and a period of 482 days to make that journey, Antoine was rested and ready to play an average of 40 and a half minutes, in his first two games back for the Beantown basketball team. When the Celtics aquired Walker, they got rid of their 36-year-old Glove that was falling apart, 52.5 percent career free throw shooter Michael Stewart and Tom Gugliotta.

In the last two minutes of regulation, Walker hit two hook shots that forced overtime against the Phoenix Suns. Gary Payton's replacement, rookie Delonte West, hit a huge three-pointer to give the Celtics their first lead in overtime. At one point in the final minute of the game, this point guard out-hustled all five Phoenix defenders to grab a loose ball so he could call time-out. If it weren't for West's contribution, the Cs wouldn't have been able to defeat the West Coast's best team.

In the Keystone state, the 76ers received perennial all-star Chris Webber, Villanova graduate Michael Bradley and Matt Barnes from the Kings for Kenny Thomas, 6'9" Brian Skinner and 2001-2002 sixth man of the year Corliss Williamson. The Sixers also traded "Big Dog" Glenn Robinson to New Orleans for Jamal Mashburn and Rodney Rodgers. With these trades both Philadelphia and Boston have improved their teams and will battle for the Atlantic Division title.

In a different deal, New Orleans sent Baron Davis to the Warriors for Dale Davis and Speedy Claxton. Keith Van Horn, who has now played for five different teams, moved from Milwaukee to Dallas for Alan Henderson and Calvin Booth. However, more intriguing for Dallas sports fans is the news that QB Drew Bledsoe is going to run the offense for Coach Bill Parcells. The last time the Cowboys had a horse to ride them to the playoffs, John McCardell was getting his feet wet as Middlebury's newest president.

"The Bus" is still running in Pittsburgh even after 12 years in the league. The loss to the Patriots in this year's AFC championship game must have influenced him to come back. The only thing the Pats have lost in 2005 is corner back Ty Law, who was recently let go.

As far as wide recievers go, Muhsin Muhammad's new zip code is the Chicago-based 60605. Bear in mind, even though Muhammad is a quality receiver, he still needs Rex Grossman to step up and throw him the pigskin.

Procrastinating college students sure do the majority of their work around deadlines, but it is obvious that general managers cram even more when their trade deadlines approach.

Skiers ice out New England foes

Ashley Fitzgerald

A crowd of Middlebury well-wishers gather half-way up Allen at the Middlebury Snow Bowl to cheer on the Panthers at their home Carnival last week.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

First-year Clayton Reed claimed his fourth top five slalom result of the season, finishing three 10ths behind Rusten in fourth, while Derek Shields '05 moved up nine spots in the afternoon to finish 20th.

Saturday, the Panther men came prepared to dominate once again, taking first overall in the giant slalom for the second time in two weeks.

Racing in front of all our friends and parents was truely special. Those of us who are seniors could not have wished for a better way to complete our carnival years.

— Peter Philips '05

Benjamin Drummond of UNH won his second straight giant slalom, with a combined time of 1:56.80, while Nickerson settled for second, a quarter of a second back. Rusten finished 17-100ths behind Greg Hardy of UVM for fourth, while Reed and Joey Swensson '08 were close behind in sixth and seventh respectively.

Senior co-captain Peter Phillips sat in ninth after the first run but experienced problems on the pitch in the second run and moved back to 20th place, just two-100th ahead of Shields who vaulted 14 places in the afternoon with the 12th fastest time.

"The team was ready to race. We knew the hill, and with all of the fan support we couldn't have been more excited," said Phillips. "Racing in front of all our friends and parents was truly special. Those of us who are seniors couldn't have asked for a better way to complete our carnival years."

Shields also acknowledged the extraordinary fan support, saying, "Knowing that the fans were out there cheering definitely helped me come back after making some big mistakes in my first runs. They were great."

"Ski racing is a tricky sport to forecast considering all the variables involved, but from the young to the old, we definitely lived up to our expectations," said Head Alpine Coach Forest Carey. "To be fast you have to be on the edge, and our guys came through and skied to their potential. We train at the Snow Bowl everyday, so that was a huge advantage," continued Carey. "Our goal was to win, so I'm really happy, especially for the seniors."

A mile down the road at the Breadloaf campus, home of the Rikert Ski Touring Center, the Middlebury nordic team also rose to the occasion and posted their best results of the 2005 season in Saturday's freestyle events after struggling in Friday's classic races.

Junior Garrott Kuzzy led the Panther men in Friday's 10 km classic with a time of 29:57.8, a minute and 23 seconds out of first place, good enough for 10th. The 10th place kept Kuzzy's streak alive of finishing in the top 10 in every race this season.

Teammate Beau Baldock '07 crossed the line 11 seconds behind Kuzzy for 11th place, while first-year Jimmy Ades rounded out the scorers in 20th. Bryce Roche '05, Jake Whitcomb '06 and Dan Skold '07 also turned in solid efforts placing 22nd, 26th and 28th respectively.

UVM's Ethan Foster, Lowell Bailey and Jordi St. John finished one-two-three to give the UVM men a clean sweep of the podium for the second time this season.

"For me, Friday's classic race was exciting because it was the first race at the Middlebury Carnival, being one of the season's biggest races and on our home course," commented Kuzzy.

Kuzzy continued, "The excitement got to me and I think I started a little too hard. The other skiers all raced well and I finished a disappointing 10th, despite feeling as if I had had a good race. Knowing I could ski better, I wanted to prove it on Saturday."

Kuzzy would have no regrets on Saturday as his third place finish in the 20 km mass start skate matched his season-best and marked his first podium appearance since the same event three weeks ago at the UVM Carnival.

Foster and Bailey held their ranks on the podium as Foster edged out his teammate by a fraction of a second for the victory with a time of 49:22.2.

Kuzzy was 37 seconds back, while Baldock finished just over two minutes back for a season-best sixth place. Whitcomb and Skold also claimed top 30 results, coming in 22nd and 27th respectively, helping nordic men's team to second place for the day.

"Before the race, Beau Baldock and I discussed a strategy to spread out the race early and avoid the risk of getting tangled up with other skiers on the narrow course," noted Kuzzy. "The plan worked perfectly and Beau and I made a break early and dropped all but three UVM skiers. Saturday's race ended up much better than Friday's and was a great way to end the final carnival leading up to the NCAA Championships."

I believe that our skiers fed of the energy and enthusaism of the huge crowd which gave us a huge lift.

— Coach Terry Aldrich

The women also saved their best for last as they broke into the top two for the first time this season in Saturday's 15 km mass start freestyle. Evelyn Dong '07 led the women as she has all year, matching her season-best in sixth place, followed by Claire Anderson '06 in eighth and Jenny Jorvig '06 in ninth.

Taylor Leach '06, Tyne Pike-Sprenger '05 and Liz Torkelson '07 were also solid for the Panthers coming in 17th, 21st and 29th respectively. Dartmouth swept the top three spots, led by Elizabeth Harrington who won for the second time this year.

Leach was the top Panther finisher in Friday's 5 km classic in 14th, followed by Pike-Sprenger in 16th, Jorvig in 18th, Anderson in 19th, Torkelson in 20th and Dong in 22nd. Alison Crocker of Dartmouth beat out Harrington for her fourth victory of 2005.

"I was extremely proud of the team's performance in the mass-start race on Saturday," commented Head Nordic Coach Terry Aldrich. "I believe that our skiers fed off the energy and enthusiasm of the huge crowd which gave us a big lift. I could hear the roar of the crowd in the start/finish area all the way to the top of the Battell uphill which is over a half mile away. With the help of the crowd, I feel we had a huge home course advantage."

Aldrich continue, "The team seems to be peaking at the right time and should be able to carry the energy, enthusiasm and momentum from the Middlebury Carnival right into the NCAA's."

The alpine and nordic NCAA's will be held March 9 to 12 at Stowe, Vt.

Midd shreads Continentals

Panthers romp to a 3-0 quarterfinal victory

Sixiao Huo

First-year Samuel Driver looks to advance the puck while under pressure from a Hamilton defender last week.

By Jason Lockhart
Staff Writer

In what could have been the last home game for this year's seniors, all four classes contributed to Middlebury's 3-0 win over Hamilton in their NESCAC quarterfinal matchup. Ross Cherry '08 recorded his first career shutout as a Panther, stopping 21 shots for the win.

Men's Hockey

Saturday, February 26

Middlebury	3
Hamilton	0

Captain Brian Phinney '05 capped off the night by scoring his 26th career goal into an empty net with 1:46 left in the game. After sophomore John Sales won the draw deep in Middlebury's zone, fellow sophomore Darwin Hunt chipped the puck off the boards to Phinney who had nothing but open ice, easily depositing the puck into the empty net.

"The last face-off you knew someone had to make a good effort and Darwin Hunt found a way to chip it out," said Phinney who scored his seventh goal of the season. "I was lucky enough to find it on my stick, and I was just skating to get down there. I was happy he made that effort."

The Panthers have defeated Hamilton in the semifinals of the NESCAC tournament three out of the last four years, but this year came into the game a little less certain of the outcome, knowing they had already lost to Hamilton just three weeks ago by the score of 3-2.

"You can't come into the playoffs thinking it's going to be easy. You know it's going to be a battle when teams are fighting for their life for the next game," admitted Phinney.

The Panthers opened the scoring just 2:20 into the first period. Sophomore Eric LaFreniere stole the puck from behind the Continentals net and fed Shady Young '06 who fired a low shot past the glove side of goaltender Rob MacNeil.

The Panthers strong defensive play limited the Continentals to just three shots in the first period, giving Cherry a relatively easy period. However, his workload increased in the subsequent periods, but Cherry was still able to fight his way to a shutout.

Despite the increase in shots over the next two periods (eight and 10 respectively) many of the shots were low quality shots which could be attributed to the fact that the Panthers defense allowed very few second chances on Cherry.

"The team played well in front of me to help get the job done," said Cherry, while Phinney added, "Ross has been playing great for us. He's making the saves when he has to. The defense helped out too by clearing guys from out in front."

The Panthers were able to chip one more past MacNeil who made 27 saves in the losing effort. The dynamic first-year duo of Justin Gaines and Mickey Gilchrist hooked up one more time. Gaines slid a pass from behind the net out in front to Gilchrist who rifled a wrist just under the crossbar for his team leading 18th goal of the season with 8:53 remaining in the second period.

"A lot of the young guys are coming on, like Mickey and Ross. At this point of the year you don't have freshmen. You just need guys to step it up," explained Phinney.

The Panthers know that they'll need Cherry to stay hot in order to go far in the playoffs, but the first-year goaltender remarked, "We know it's a team effort right now. If I do my job and everyone else does their job we'll do alright and get the results."

The Panthers move onto the semifinals of the NESCAC Tournament to face Colby at Trinity's Kingswood-Oxford arena next Saturday.

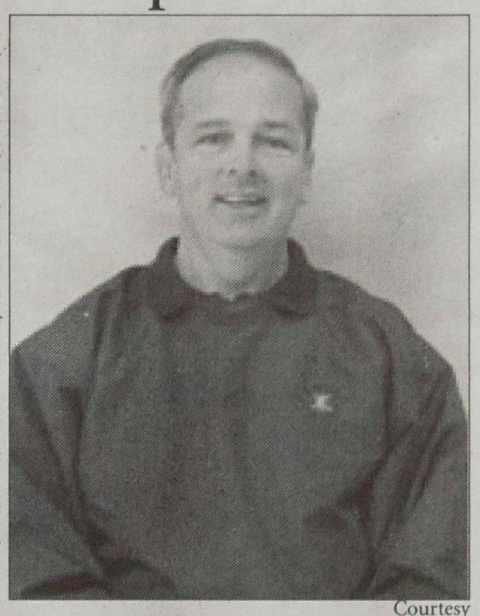
Sports Editors Predict

	Ryan Says:	Tom Says:	Zamir Says:
Women's Hockey NESCAC Champions?	**Yes. 3-0 win vs. Ephs and an epic against Bowdoin carry Midd home**	**Yes. 3-1 vs. Ephs before OT goal lifts ladies to 3-2 victory in final.**	**Yes. Cruise to 4-1 win over Ephs and 2-0 title decision.**
Men's Hockey NESCAC Champions?	**No. 3-2 heart-breaker in semis end season early for Beaney's men**	**Yes. Too good for Colby then a 3-1 win over Bantam rivals.**	**No. 3-0 win in semis but come up just short in Trinity duel.**
Will the 4x400m "Dream Team" break the record?	**Yes. There is not a doubt in my mind. They're just that good.**	**Yes. This team will just keep getting better each time out.**	**No. Closer than a Gillette shave this time out, but still quick.**

SPORTSBRIEFS

BY RYAN REESE, SPORTS EDITOR

Beaney named Sports Fellow



Courtesy

Bill Beaney, the head coach of men's hockey team as well as men's and women's golf teams, has added another outstanding award to his already extensive resume. The Institute for International Sport has recognized Beaney as a 2005 Sports Ethics Fellow. As the world's largest promoter of ethical and fair play as well as sportsmanship, the Institute's list of fellows includes the likes of Lance Armstrong, Mia Hamm, David Robinson and Bonnie Blair. As one of this year's 12 honorees, Beaney has continually and consistently promoted ethics and sportsmanship in his coaching. Through supporting and demanding positive behavior from his players while playing, learning and living, Beaney has joined an elite group of coaches, athletes and administrators who are, in the words of the Chair of the Selection Committee Chuck Mitrano, "strong advocates in an effort to improve the sporting culture." Beaney has led the men's hockey team to six National Titles and a record 10 straight NCAA appearances in his 17 years at the helm. He has been named New England Coach of the Year three times and has earned the title of National Coach of the Year twice. Furthermore, on the links, his teams have won two NESCAC titles.

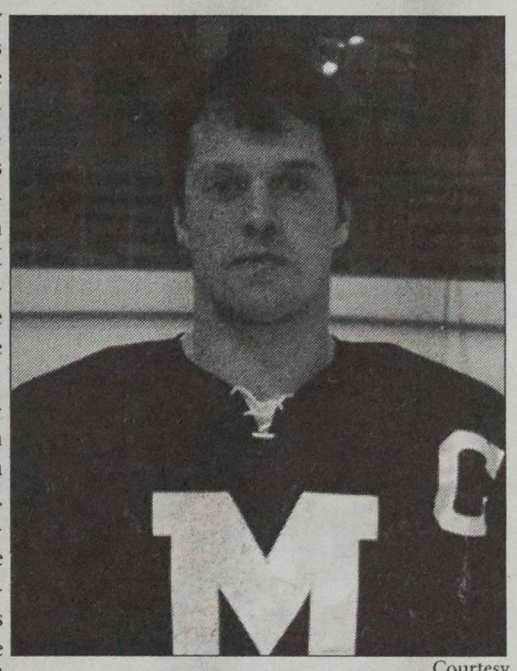
Crew rows through preseason

Even though Lake Champlain is still frozen over and cluttered with ice fishermen, the Middlebury crew team has already begun the spring thaw. With their sights set on the upcoming competition schedule and their annual Spring Break training trip to Miami, practices have started and muscles have begun to ache. In their team room, which is lovingly referred to as the "Sweat Shop," the Panther rowers have been working off the off-season rust throughout the week and during their patented "Friday Night Fight" workouts. With such an intense training session to kick off the weekend, Midd Crew members do not take these Fridays lightly.

Walking by the team room last Friday, all that could be heard were piercing screams. A brief look in the room revealed an exhausted rower pounding his way through a sprint while his teammates urged him on by screaming, "GO! GO! GO!" While the astounding team chemistry was clear, it seemed a little cruel to be screaming "GO" to a teammate on a stationary object that, by its very nature, cannot move.

With panoramic views of Miami around the room that serve as motivation, the squad is focused on attaining their goals. There is no doubt that the crew team's efforts in the preseason will carry them far during this year's competition schedule.

Phinney '05 up for Concannon



Courtesy

Brian Phinney '05 has been named as a semifinalist for the prestigious Joe Concannon Award. The recognition annually singles out the best American-born hockey player in the ranks of Division II and Division III. Phinney has spearheaded the stalwart Panther defense throughout the year.

Under his leadership, the always-tough defenders have allowed a low 1.86 goals per game. Not only does Phinney guard the net, he plays offense just as effectively. With six goals and 13 assists, the native Vermonter has totaled 19 points thus far in this year's campaign. According to the selection committee, the award not only recognizes outstanding play, but sportsmanship and character as well.

The committee has also stated that they will be watching the 13 semifinalists' remaining games in order to finalize their opinions. As the Panthers head to Trinity for the Frozen Four, there is no doubt that Phinney will be focused on the business at hand. His talents will be showcased as he leads the way for the determined Panther squad. The award will be announced at the New England Hockey Writers' Dinner on Wednesday, April 13.

MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING | PANTHERS CLAIM SILVER MEDAL IN NESCAC CHAMPIONSHIP | 21

WOMEN'S HOCKEY | NESCAC SEMI-FINAL REWARD FOR WOMEN AFTER CONVINCING WIN OVER TRINITY | 21

GAMES TO WATCH

MEN'S HOCKEY VS. COLBY
MAR. 5 | 4 P.M. | TRINITY

INDOOR TRACK ECAC CHAMPIONSHIP
MAR. 5 | ST. LAWRENCE

campus sports
THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2005

CARNIVAL SUCCESS; ALPINE DOMINATION

Home Carnival ends in third place team finish while downhill takes first

Courtesy

Megan Hughes '08 flies through another gate during the slalom at the Middlebury Winter Carnival held at the Snow Bowl last weekend.

By Kellan Florio
Staff Writer

Feasting on adrenaline and fervent fan support, the Middlebury ski teams posted some of their best results of the season and carved out another third place finish at their home carnival and Eastern Championship last weekend. The alpine squad paced the Panthers with their first overall victory of the season, taking three of the four events held at the Snow Bowl, while the nordic team pulled out their best finish of the season on Saturday with a third overall.

When it was all said and done, the Panthers relinquished their eastern title to the University of Vermont (UVM) who won the championship for the 29th time in 30 years, with a total of 903 points. Dartmouth College (875) finished second, followed by Middlebury (852), Williams College (708) and the University of New Hampshire (646).

Leading the alpine team to victory on both Friday and Saturday was first-year Megan Hughes. Hughes led the women's team to their second slalom victory of the season with an impressive second place finish, just three hundredths of a second behind UVM's Jilyne McDonald who completed the two runs in 1:34.34. Tara Martin '07 turned in an excellent second run to finish 1.4 seconds back in fourth, followed closely by teammates Lindsay Brush '07 in fifth and Jess Smith '04.5 in sixth.

"It was so close in the slalom," said Hughes, who narrowly missed her second slalom victory of the season. "Getting second by only three-100ths is tough, but it made me go for it more in the giant slalom."

Hughes did just that. Taking full advantage of her home hill experience and the spirited crowd, she won both runs to take the giant slalom victory in convincing fashion, finishing with a time of 2:01.34. Jamie Kingsbury of UVM was the closest challenger, 1.28 seconds back in second place (2:02.62), followed by UVM teammate Amy Cochran in third (2:02.73).

The Panther women dominated the rest of the giant slalom standings, placing four more racers in the top 12. Smith was solid again in fifth, followed by Krissie Poehling '08 in seventh, Molly Russell '05 in ninth and Martin in 12th.

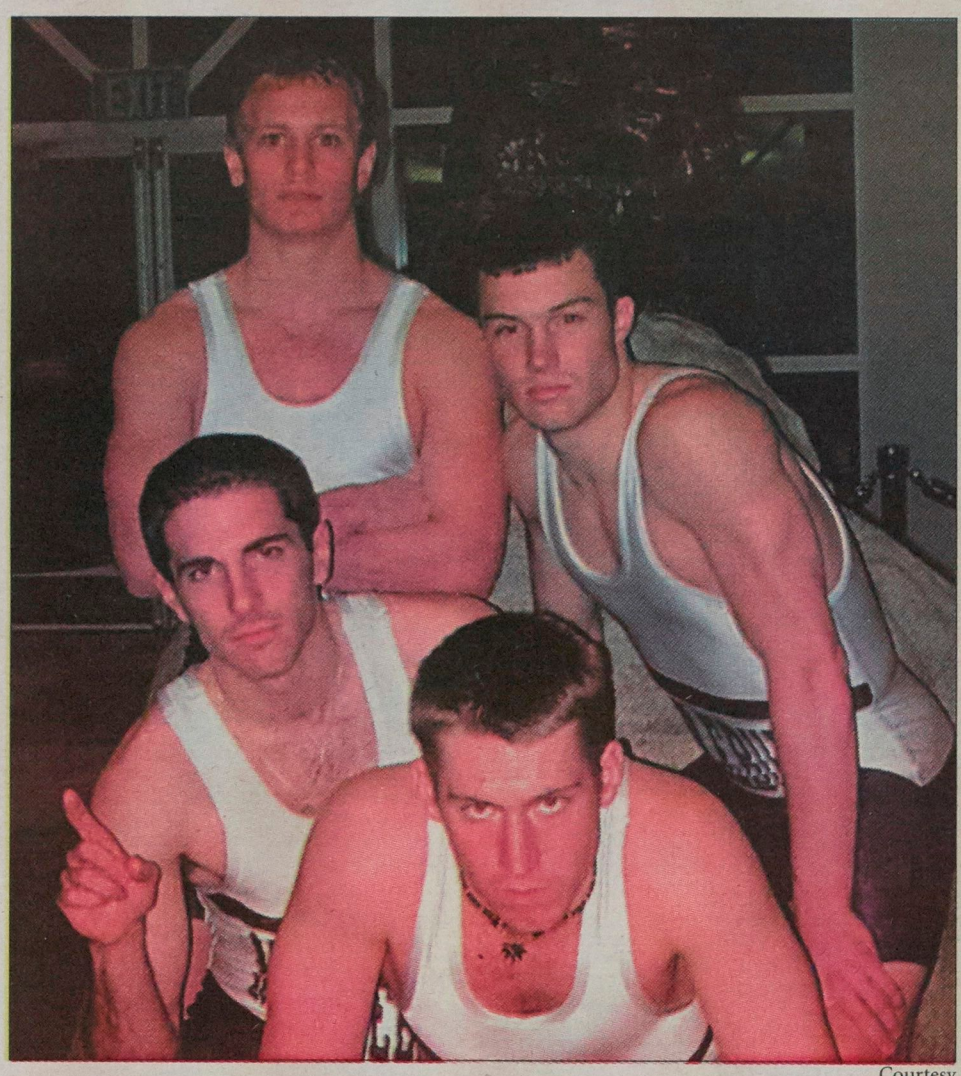
"I had a little bobble in my first run coming off the pitch, so for the second run all I was thinking about was skiing clean and aggressive up top and letting it go down on the bottom. I was really just going for the win," commented Hughes on her second giant slalom win of the year. "It was so cool to have so many Midd fans out on the hill and up watching and cheering. I was psyched for the entire team yesterday, we all wanted to dominate on our home hill, so it was great!"

The alpine team's victory came at a great cost, however, as Lindsay Brush '07 suffered a season-ending knee injury coming over the final knoll on her final run of the weekend. In perhaps one of the greatest displays of sportsmanship and self-determination the ski team has ever seen, Brush completed the last four gates on one leg before collapsing in the finish area.

On the men's side, senior co-captain John Rusten enjoyed another stellar weekend picking up a third place finish in Friday's slalom and a fourth in the giant slalom, making it five top fives and 10 top 10s out of his 12 runs this season. Warner Nickerson of Colby took the victory in the slalom, beating out Charles Christianson of Williams by two 10ths of a second and Rusten by seven 10ths, with a time of 1:22.63.

See Skiers, page 22

4x400m "Dream Team" clocks one for the ages



Courtesy

Juniors Kevin Bright and Matt Malek stand proud with Patrick Swan '08 and Nick Digani '05. The "Dream Team" recently shattered the Middlebury 4x400m record, qualifying for Nationals.

By Ryan Reese
Sports Editor

This past weekend the Indoor Track team's cream of the crop made their way south to Boston to compete in the Open New England Championships. As one of the last steps before the prized NCAA Championships, there is no doubt that the pressure was on. The results showed that the Panthers did not shy away from the spotlight.

On the women's side of things, Senior Allison Williams was sent to represent her fellow Panthers in the 500m. The middle distance specialist from Edina, Minn., clocked in with a time of 1:20.27. The strong finish and outstanding effort earned her the 15th best time in New England this year.

For the men, the always-amazing Nick Digani '05 ran his specialty, the 800m, and did not disappoint. With a time of 1:53.51, the speedy senior from Illinois erased his own school record again. While consistently breaking his own mark, many are wondering how low it will get and where the madness will end. With the big time indoor meets yet to come and an entire outdoor season on the horizon, there is no doubt that Digani has more tricks in his bag.

Digani did not end his day there. There was more work to be done, and the four horsemen of the 4x400m brought their "A" game and made history in the process.

As the runners exploded out of the blocks, not a soul in Boston, or New England for that matter, had any idea what Middlebury had in store. Digani ran alongside juniors Kevin Bright and Matt Malek, as well as Patrick Swan '08, to produce one of the most stunning times in recent Middlebury track history — 3:18.61. Read that again. With this time, the "Dream Team" shattered the Middlebury school record by more than three seconds and is currently listed as the third best 4x400 combination in the entire country.

Not only did they qualify for the NCAA Championships that will be held in Illinois on March 11 and 12, but they are poised to medal as well. What makes their achievement all the more impressive is the fact that a considerable time has elapsed since the last time Middlebury took a relay team to Nationals. They're not just going, they're going with expectations.

Anchorman Bright said, "We're looking to get a good time this weekend at Yale in order to get a good seed at nationals. We're really looking to place there because it'd be pretty cool to be All-Americans."

Before the national meet, the "Dream Team" has another weekend to tune up the spikes. The ECAC Championship is to be held at St. Lawrence College this upcoming weekend. With a larger talent pool and more competing schools, the combo will once again see how they measure up.

With the leadership and experience of Digani, the strength and force of Bright's running, the irrepressible competitive spirit and unmatched desire of Malek and the fresh and eager attitude of first-year Swan, the combination is perfect. The recipe calls for success and there is little doubt that it will be delivered. Stay tuned — more excitement is sure to come.